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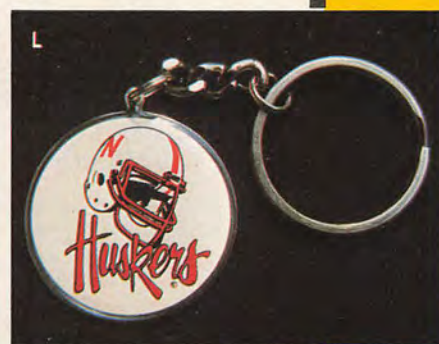
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On The Cover

Los Angeles photographer Alvin Chung captured more than just another sideline shot. The embattled helmet takes on a life of its own by symbolizing the entire, tradition-filled era of Husker football.

In The Next Issue

Join us as we conclude our series on Tom Osborne, profiling "The Man," plus a complete bowl review and 1984-85 season wrap-up.

Huskers Illustrated...

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Letters

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

Just read Randy York's article in the September *Huskers Illustrated* and wanted to share with you the number of Nebraska players that we had on the 1940 Rose Bowl team. I am enclosing a copy of our team roster from the official program.

Of 39 players on the traveling team, 38 were from Nebraska, and I believe Robert McNutt later moved to Nebraska.

Incidentally, Robert Ludwick and myself were the only two who graduated with M.D. degrees. Unfortunately, Robert died this year. I am still a loyal fan of Big Red but have a slight problem this year — my grandson is third-string quarterback for the University of Missouri.

Jack Vincent
Canon City, Colo.

● EDITOR'S NOTE — Thanks for the roster, which we are including here, along with the players' hometowns.

George Abel, Lincoln; Warren Alfson, Wisner; Forrest Behm, Lincoln; Wayne Blue, Tecumseh; Dale Bradley, Lincoln;

William Bryant, Ashland; Robert Bur-russ, Omaha; Vike Francis, Lincoln.

Jack Hazen, Omaha; Clarence Herndon, Grand Island; Harry Hopp, Hastings; Royal Kahler, Grand Island; Robert Kahler, Grand Island; Gerald Kathol, Hartington; Howard Kelly, Grand Island.

George Knight, Lincoln; Francis Leik, Hastings; Robert Ludwick, Lincoln; Walter Luther, Cambridge; Robert McNutt, Colby, Kan.; Fred Meier, Lincoln; Fred Metheny, Lincoln; Leonard Muskin, Omaha; Lynn Meyers, Lincoln; Roy Petsch, Scottsbluff; Fred Preston, Fairbury.

Raymond Prochaska, Ulysses; Henry Rohn, Fremont; Herman Rohrig, Lincoln; Don Rubottom, Gering; Vic Schleich, Lincoln; Ed Schwartzkopf, Lincoln; Kenneth Simmons, Valentine; Marvin Thompson, Mitchell; Theos Thompson, Lincoln; Jack Vincent, O'Neill; Burdette Wertman, David City; Ralph Whitehead, Minatare; Allen Zikmund, Ord.

In contrast, eight states were represented on Stanford's roster, including four players from Oklahoma.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

Baseball teams do this to help their offense or slow down their opponent. I'm wondering if UCLA did anything to the grass at the Rose Bowl to slow down "The Thing?"

Marc Kaplan
Milwaukee, Wis.

● EDITOR'S NOTE — If UCLA did something to the field, it apparently didn't work.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

After receiving your two weekly *Huskers Illustrated* up-dates, I'm disappointed that you went back to the foldout sheet instead of the book type up-date you had last year. In my opinion, it was a lot better. I would like to know why you switched back.

Eddie Edmistan
Littleton, Colo.

● EDITOR'S NOTE — We thought the foldout up-date would make a better wall poster, but we'd be interested in hearing from other subscribers regarding

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Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I'm from Omaha, but I'm stationed in Mainz, Germany. I'm in the Army. My father had given to me the *Huskers Illustrated* as a gift. He, too, is a Big Red Fan. I underlined Big Red Fan because I have never seen a fan so devoted and dedicated.

I really enjoy your magazine. You see over here in Germany, I don't hear about the game until two or three days after it's been played. The *Huskers Illustrated* helps me learn what's going on the team, although I always see them a month late. I just wanted to inform you that *Huskers Illustrated* is very informative and congratulate you all on a job very well done.

Also, I would like to know if there will be any tickets available for the 1985 season? In all the years my father and I have been devoted to the Huskers, we have yet to see a live game. Please let me know if season tickets are available. Once again, thanks for a job well done.

Dan Eric Fleming
Mainz, Germany

P.S. I will be home for the 1985 season.

• EDITOR'S NOTE — Thank you for the kind words. Unfortunately, there are no season tickets available for purchase for the 1985 football season. Memorial Stadium continues to be sold out. But you might put your name in at the NU ticket office with single-game requests, just in case. Good luck.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

As an avid follower of Nebraska's recruiting, I was very excited when it was announced that Craig Satepauhoodle, a 6-foot-2, 260-pound lineman from Hominy, Okla., and Charles Fryar, a super-quick cousin of Irving Fryar and also from New Jersey, were signed as walkons. However, neither player was listed on the freshman roster in the opening game against Ellsworth J.C. What happened to those two highly-touted walkon recruits?

Kyle Juracek
Omaha

• EDITOR'S NOTE — Satepauhoodle changed his mind about becoming a Cornhusker. Fryar currently is removing some academic deficiencies at Nebraska.

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Perhaps it takes an effort of will to be optimistic when circumstances seem to dictate pessimism. But it pays to remember that our system has always worked best when we had the most faith in it. When we understand that, the system works for America. And we are the system.



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Dear Big Red Mailbag:

It was sheer class. Not at all uncharacteristic of Nebraska, but it was beautiful. I watched the Nebraska-UCLA game on television. I saw that run for a touchdown by Shane Swanson. When he reached the end zone for the TD, there was no throwing of the ball into the stands, no vicious bouncing of the ball on the turf, no jumping up and down, no prancing, no ugly gyrations of the knees. He deliberately touched the ball down and ran out of the view of the TV camera. It was as beautiful and as heartwarming as the run itself.

Richard D. Rowley
Ewen, Mich.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

We were sadly disappointed in ABC's coverage of Nebraska representatives on the men's gymnastics team for USA at the Olympics. We heard about UCLA members in depth, their interviews, their parents' interviews and about Bart Conner of Oklahoma. We heard Bart and Kurt Thomas turned gymnastics around in the USA.

No mention was made that Jim Hartung and Scott Johnson from the team and Jim Mikus, the alternate, came from a University of Nebraska program that prior to this year won five consecutive national championships in gymnastics under Coach Frances Allen, who was coach of the 1980 Olympic team.

If it hadn't been for our local people, who had people in Los Angeles, we wouldn't have known currently how Jim and Scott scored. Jim Hartung never appeared until the last two events of the optionals and Scott's appearances were few.

Depth was credited for the USA success, but no one mentioned that Nebraska's representatives contributed a lot to the USA's success. We are proud of our gymnastic program at Nebraska and as Bob Devaney said, we didn't appreciate the UCLA and Bart Connor show put on by ABC.

Sincerely,
John and Ruth Swanson
Omaha

• EDITOR'S NOTE — Copies of the Swansons' letter also went to Jim McKay and Jack Whitaker of ABC Sports.



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Dear Big Red Mailbag:

Next to the Nebraska Cornhuskers, *Huskers Illustrated* is the most awesome thing around. I just finished watching the Oklahoma State game on TV and thought the Husker defense looked mighty good. I was wondering if you knew anywhere I could get a 1985 Nebraska football poster schedule? Keep up the good work.

Aaron Burr
Kenesaw, Ne.

● EDITOR'S NOTE — The 1985 Cornhusker football schedule poster won't be out until next fall, Aaron. Thanks for the kind words about our magazine, which depends on fans like you.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I subscribed to *Huskers Illustrated* about a year ago and now realize I should have long ago.

I was at the Oklahoma State game

this year and noticed that the south goal posts were shaking. Logically, I thought they had been hit with the football, but they continued to shake the whole game. What's the scoop?

Also, I collect the official programs from every game I have been to. Somehow, I have lost two. Can you give me any information on the possibility of getting back issues? (Missouri, 1978, and Oklahoma, 1976)

Mike Lofing
Scottsbluff, Ne.

● EDITOR'S NOTE — No scoop on the goal posts. The wind was probably shaking them. There's no reason for concern. As for back issues of game programs, hopefully some other Cornhusker fan with the programs you need will read your letter. That's about the only way they're available. The NU sports information office doesn't retain multiple copies for sale.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I enjoy each magazine very much. What a great package for Husker sports.

In your May/June 84 issue, you listed the walkon players for this year. What has happened to Craig Satepauhoodle, Charles Fryar and Greg Drummond? Their names didn't appear on a freshman depth chart published in the *Omaha World-Herald*. Also, I've heard nothing of freshman recruit Tyreese Knox. Is he hurt, or did he leave school?

Also, I'd like to comment on the weekly up-dates. They are the least impressive part of *Huskers Illustrated*. Maybe you could look to eliminate them and add an extra couple of months to the magazine.

Jack Baldwin
Lakeside, Ariz.

● EDITOR'S NOTE — Satepauhoodle changed his mind about walking on. Fryar is getting some academic deficiencies removed, and Drummond was sidelined by an injury before the season. He'll have to wait until the spring. Knox had a stress fracture in his leg as a high school performer and since it hadn't completely healed at the start of this fall, he was redshirted.

Knox has looked very good running on the scout squad and should figure into Nebraska's future plans. He appears to be an excellent I-back prospect.

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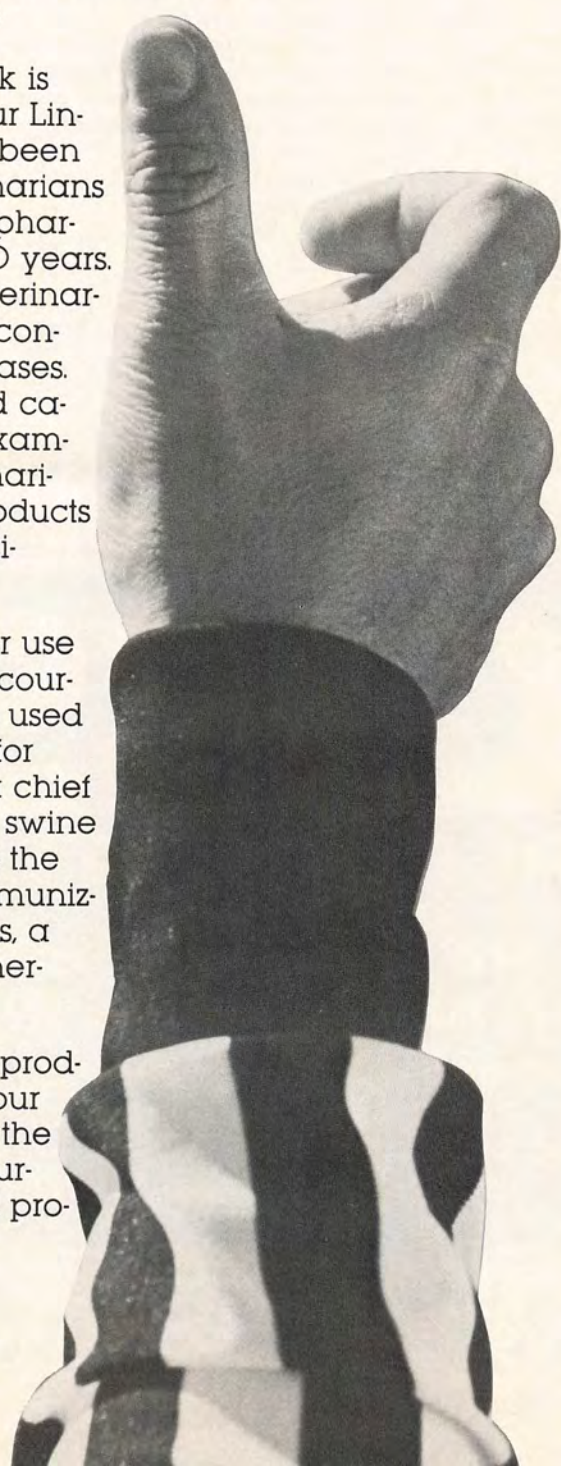
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Dear Big Red Mailbag:

Here's one for the records.

A missionary told me he drives to a high mountain, sets up his shortwave radio, finds the right meter-band, adjusts the antenna and listens to the Cornhusker football games regularly, no sweat.

Where? North Island, New Zealand, at least 11,000 miles from Lincoln. I wonder if anyone can top it?

Paul Andreas
Omaha

• EDITOR'S NOTE — We doubt it.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

What do you think about Barry Switzer's decision to take a safety in Oklahoma's game against Texas? Regardless of the other controversy, the game would not have ended in a tie if Oklahoma had not given two points away.

Gary R. Purdy
Mitchell, S.D.

• EDITOR'S NOTE — No comment...actually, given the playing conditions, it was probably a good decision at the time it was made. Hindsight is 20-20.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I am disappointed in your format of the *Huskers Illustrated* weekly up-dates. If you would only add one thing, I feel it would greatly add to the newsletter.

Please put the starting lineup with the numbers and statistics of the Huskers and their opponents for the next game. A star by the outstanding opponent would also be helpful.

Thank you.

David B. Jones, D.D.S.
Osmond, Ne.

• EDITOR'S NOTE — The best we can do is include the two-deep lineups.

When the weekly up-dates go to press, the starting lineups have not been identified, for obvious reasons. The outstanding performers for the opposition are usually mentioned in the scouting report, along with occasional statistics.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

Gentlemen, I think *Huskers Illustrated* is one of the best magazines I have ever read. I like reading about all of Nebraska's sports, and your people do a very good job of writing about them.

I also have a copy of the 1971 Nebraska-Oklahoma game on a VHS tape. It is a little snowy but otherwise in good shape. It runs from the pre-game to the end just like it was on television that day. I look at it every now and then, and it is still one of the great games I have ever seen. Those two teams were so good it was too bad one of them had to lose, but I'm just glad it was Nebraska that

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why he doesn't play more freshmen. That question wasn't asked much this season.

In addition to Gamble, who alternated with Kimball on the first unit, defensive back Brian Washington and I-back Keith Jones made significant contributions during the season.

Jones, who scored 18 touchdowns during his senior year at Omaha Central High School to earn the nickname "End-Zone Jones," sprinted 47 yards against Iowa State for the first touchdown of his collegiate career.

Jones nearly got his first Nebraska touchdown in the Kansas State game, but he went out-of-bounds at the two-yard line. After the game, Jones said, he told a couple of teammates he had intentionally stepped out.

He was joking, of course. Still, he can be satisfied with a performance, even if he doesn't get in the end zone. "I just run the ball," says Jones. "If I run well, that's okay with me."

Gamble, who began returning kickoffs at the end of the season, enjoys running with the ball, too. "I like handling the ball," he says.

He also likes watching teammates run with the ball. "I just love it when Jeff (Smith) and Doug (DuBose) get in the open field," Gamble says.

He has no desire to become a running back because, "I'm not that brave."

That's debatable. Husker quarterback Travis Turner predicts Gamble will be a "great, great receiver."

Gamble, who's from Santa Barbara, Calif., is a freshman even though he went through winter conditioning and spring practice a year ago.

He received a scholarship and enrolled for second semester.

Jones began the fall with the junior varsity but was promoted when junior Paul Miles was sidelined with a dislocated shoulder. Jones made his first road trip with the varsity to the Syracuse game.

The former Super-State running back never expected to play varsity football his first year at Nebraska. "I didn't think I was physically prepared to compete at the varsity level," says Jones, whose brother Lee is a Husker defensive tackle.

Lee Jones spent the fall as a redshirt.

Keith, who stands 5-9, weighed only 176 pounds when he arrived at Nebraska, and "playing right away wasn't a big concern to me." He's gained seven pounds and considerable confidence this fall.

"I'm happy," Jones says.

"College football is set up somewhat

like a job, and the coaches are the bosses. It's like the Army. If they need me, I'm ready. If they don't, I still prepare just as hard."

Washington was with the Husker varsity from the beginning of the season.

Senior cornerback Neil Harris says Washington has the physical ability to be great. "He's strong. He's fast, and he's quick. Everything you want out of a junior or senior, he's got as a freshman. He's got unlimited talent and he really wants to learn."

"He's doing well stepping straight out of high school," says Harris. "Wait'll he gets a spring practice behind him."

Washington, a *Parade Magazine* high school All-American from Highland Springs, Va., wants to be great. "I want to be the greatest defensive back who ever came out of this school," he says, matter-of-factly.

"He's learned real fast, as fast as any young guy we've ever had," Nebraska secondary Coach Bob Thornton says.

A fourth freshman, quarterback Clete Blakeman, spent the season with the varsity, as a back-up to Travis Turner and Craig Sundberg.

Few freshmen are mature enough to play varsity football. That's why Nebraska provides a freshman program.

it's academic

Nine Cornhuskers were named to this year's Big Eight Conference All-Academic first team, including two who made the team for the third straight year: defensive tackle Rob Stuckey and defensive end Bill Weber.

Stuckey, a senior from Lexington, had a 3.896 grade-point average (on a 4.0 scale) in finance, and Weber, a senior from Lincoln, carried a 3.742 GPA, also in finance.

Nebraska's other defenders so honored, all seniors, were middle guard Ken Graeber, and end Scott Strasburger, both of whom were walkons.

Graeber's grade-point average was 3.095 in mechanical engineering. Strasburger's was 3.841 in pre-med.

Strasburger, who's from Holdrege, was also one of 11 senior football players across the country named National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame Scholar-Athletes. The honorees all received \$3,000 scholarships for graduate study.

Nebraska's Academic All-Big Eight selections on offense included wingback Shane Swanson, center Mark

Traynowicz, and tackles Mark Behning and Tom Morrow.

Swanson had a 2.871 grade-point average in his recreation studies. Traynowicz had a 3.60 average in civil engineering. Behning's GPA was 2.981, in engineering, and Morrow's was 3.482 in pre-law studies.

banker's hours, etc.

Nebraska defensive end Bill Weber willingly gave up his scholarship prior to this, his senior, season.

Five mornings a week, Weber went to work in the corporate trust department of a Lincoln bank, writing outlines for bond indentures. He began each day in a three-piece suit and finished it in football pads. The situation was unique.

Weber took five credit hours to finish his degree in finance. One of those credit hours was for an internship at the bank, a job for which he was paid. Under NCAA rules, he had to drop his scholarship in order to take the job.

He had to pay his own tuition, and whenever he ate at the training table, he had to pay for his meals, too.

Weber was just like a walkon....

Did you hear the one about the wasp?

Husker head Coach Tom Osborne admitted he made a bad decision when he didn't attempt a two-point conversion after the touchdown that put Nebraska ahead of Missouri 22-10 this season.

Osborne, however, had an interesting explanation for the error two days later, at his weekly Extra Point Club luncheon. "I'm standing there in the second quarter and got what seemed like an extra jolt in my leg," he said.

"Two seconds later, I got another one, and I thought those doggone wires were starting to shock me. I started looking around for an electrician."

"Then, I got another little jolt. Pretty soon, a wasp flies out of my pant leg. The bad part of it was, my mind went numb over there. For people sitting up there wondering, I had big problems. It was that doggone wasp."....

Junior defensive end Brad Smith suffered a knee injury which required arthroscopic surgery and sidelined him for awhile near the end of the season. The injury occurred, of all places, in a movie theater the night before the Missouri game.

"He got up, and his knee just slipped out," said Osborne. "I always pick PG movies just for that reason. The players get mad at me because I always send them to movies like 'Snow White and

A picture is worth a thousand words...



Pictures like this and several thousand words in Huskers Illustrated make a great Christmas gift.

the Seven Dwarfs.' We went to a PG movie and Brad still got hurt. I guess we may have to eliminate movies."

success stories

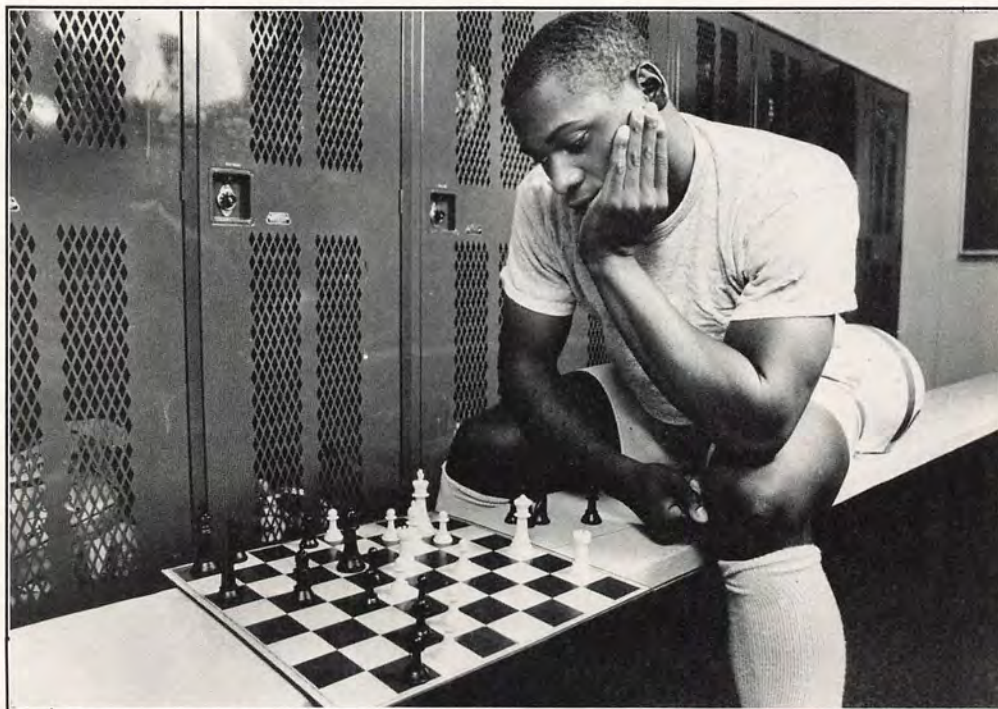
A pair of Nebraska Academic All-Americans who were college roommates have done well for themselves in southern California.

and as educators.

"Most of us aren't athletes who can go on and play forever, but we feel part of the class that is instilled in the players. You learn that discipline and those basic values that keep you going every day. If there's one thing that stands out from the experiences of my playing days, it's the caring.

the thud of the ball, it was the lowest point of my life. I was lower than a snake's belly right then."

Osborne on the mistake: "First of all, of course, you hope Harry wouldn't do something like that. But then, you'd hope the fullback or the punter would recognize someone was missing...or one of the coaches on the sideline...or Todd



Sophomore monster back Charlie Cartwright, a chess enthusiast, studies his next move in the lockerroom before practice.

Tom Heiser is one of seven sports medicine specialists in the Southwest Orthopedic Medical Group serving seven professional teams in the Los Angeles area, and Rik Bonness is a corporate specialist for Omelveney & Myers, a national firm employing more than 300 attorneys. Bonness and his family live in South Pasadena, Calif.

Bonness, an All-American center from Bellevue, completed his law degree at Cornell University just over a year ago. He attended this year's Nebraska-UCLA game, the first Cornhusker game he's seen in person since he was a player.

"I don't know a single player, personally, but I still have such a good feeling for the program," says Bonness. "I have the utmost respect for Coach Osborne. He runs a class program.

"It was evident when I lived back east. People respect Coach Osborne and the Nebraska organization, as people

"It goes beyond the coaching expertise. It's Nebraska's most intangible asset. It starts at the top with Coach Osborne and carries all the way through the program. It feeds the emotion and makes the players play to that level of being the best. It's an attitude that just snowballs," Bonness said.

"That caring is one reason I still get excited about the program. It's what sets Nebraska apart from other programs."

more Cornhusker quotes

During Nebraska's 42-3 victory over UCLA this season, a Scott Livingston punt was blocked. The Huskers had only 10 players on the field at the time. The 11th, offensive guard Harry Grimminger, was watching from the sideline.

Grimminger explained: "I was kind of tired. I just ran off the field. Sometimes, I go haywire like that. I don't even know why I went out. When I heard

Frain, the tight end who lines up next to Harry. You'd hope somebody would notice."

After the Minnesota game, Osborne presented the game ball to Cornhusker senior middle guard Ken Graeber, who walked on after being snubbed by Minnesota following his senior year in high school in Minneapolis.

Graeber said even though he appreciated the sentiment, he'd probably play catch with the football since he enjoyed playing catch and didn't have a ball.

Said a smiling Osborne: "Ken's not one to stand on ceremony."

Graeber on Osborne, after being given the game ball: "On TV, he appears awfully serious, but there is a light side to him. He says some good humorous stuff, sometimes. He's not always serious."

Graeber on a three-downs-and-out defense: "I can go three plays, get off the field, and get some water. I like the

idea. I'm not in that good of shape."

Quarterback Craig Sundberg on Osborne: "What Coach Osborne stands for as a person, that's where it all begins. Everybody else, including his assistants, fall into place after him. He's just a hard-working coach."

Osborne on sophomore place-kicker Dale Klein after the UCLA game: "Dale Klein is a good kicker. We really wanted him to kick more against Minnesota (the previous week), but we couldn't find him. At UCLA, we only had 60 guys, so we could find him easier."

The Big Eight limits travel rosters to 60 players, although Nebraska was given special permission to take 61 players to Syracuse. I-backs Jeff Smith and Keith Jones both made the trip. Smith, who was bothered by a sore ankle didn't suit up for the game; Jones did.

Klein attempted the first field goal of his college career against Oklahoma State. He made the 36-yarder to pull Nebraska into a 3-3 tie.

On the ensuing kickoff, he slipped and fell down. Undaunted, Klein got up and made the first tackle of his college career. He was a defensive back at Seward, Ne., High School.

Klein on the tackle: "I figured I'd better get up and run down there. No one blocked me. I had a solo shot and got him straight up."

Osborne described this year's team as blue-collar, and explained: "We have to over-power people with hard work. We're not going to do it with just talent."

Cornhusker center Mark Traynowicz on blocking: "You only think about the bad ones. They stick in your craw, and you can't wait to watch the films to see if they were as bad as you thought."

After watching Nebraska's defense against UCLA, Jim Armstrong of *The Denver Post* wrote: "But what about the Nebraska defense? For years it's been kind of ignored. Kind of like Dolly Parton's legs."

Freshman split end Jason Gamble on his 64-yard touchdown pass play in the Oklahoma State game: "I heard a lot of people hollering my name who probably didn't know who I was before I caught that ball."

Nancy Osborne on being a college football coach's wife: "You're on top of the hill with a win, with the feeling of ecstasy, and can be at the bottom the next week, in the pits of despair with a feeling of loss. You really feel like somebody has died."

Nancy Osborne on bowl trips: "Almost

every year we've been here (Nebraska), we've been able to go to a bowl. Of course, the guys have to work, but it is really fun for the coaches' wives. Tom said that in his next life he wants to come back as a coach's wife. He said that when we were lying on the beach in Miami."

Sophomore I-back Doug DuBose, who stands 5-11 and weighs 193 pounds, on the pounding a running back takes: "If they gave the ball to me 50 times, I wouldn't turn it down. When you carry the ball, it's how much heart you've got, not how much you weigh."

worth noting...

The 1984-85 *Street and Smith Basketball Yearbook* included Nebraska's Harvey Marshall on its All-Midwest team of top junior college players "moving up" to four-year schools. Marshall was a first-team All-American at Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colo.

The Cornhuskers' Bill Jackman was among *Street and Smith's* top six "transfers now eligible." Jackman, featured in a recent issue of *Huskers Illustrated*, spent last season as a redshirt after transferring from Duke University.

Nebraska basketball Coach Moe Iba calls Husker center Dave Hoppen "the second best player in the conference." Few people would dispute Oklahoma's Wayman Tisdale's being the best.

A recent issue of *The Wall Street Journal* featured the Nebraska Strength Complex in a story with the headline: "How to Build a Bigger Husker."

In the article, Cornhusker strength and conditioning Coach Boyd Epley predicts future success for freshman football player Neil Smith, a defensive tackle.

A recent issue of *Collegiate Baseball Newspaper* ranks Nebraska's recruiting class the 26th best in the nation. Several of those recruits performed well during fall practice.

Here's how the former Cornhuskers fared in professional baseball over the summer:

Pete O'Brien was the Texas Rangers' regular first baseman, hitting .287 with 18 home runs and 80 runs-batted-in during his second full season in the major leagues.

Tim Burke pitched for the Montreal Expos' Triple-A team in Indianapolis, finishing 11-8 with a 3.49 earned-run average, fifth best in the American Association among pitchers with a minimum of 123 innings.

Bob Sebra began the season at the

Texas Rangers' Class AA affiliate in Tulsa, Okla., where he was 10-5 with a 3.41 earned-run average and 90 strikeouts in 100 innings. He was promoted to Oklahoma City in the American Association and had a 4-4 record there, with a 3.38 ERA.

Steve Stanicek played for the San Francisco Giants' Double-A team in Shreveport, La. The former All-American first baseman hit .232 with five home runs and 34 runs-batted-in.

First baseman Dan Boever, who started late after recovering from a knee injury, hit .260 with six home runs and 34 RBIs at the Cincinnati Reds' Class A affiliate in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Catcher Ben Amaya batted .272 with two home runs and 38 runs-batted-in for the Seattle Mariners' Class A farm team in Salinas, Calif. Center field Roger Hill and second baseman Matt Butcher also played at Salinas. Hill hit .261 with one home run, 41 RBIs and 56 stolen bases. Butcher hit .202 with 21 runs-batted-in.

Pitcher Todd Oakes pitched for the San Francisco Giants' California League team in Fresno, where he was 7-5 with a 4.19 earned-run-average and 85 strikeouts in 105 innings.

Pitcher Anthony Kelley spent the summer in Asheville, N.C. He posted a 14-9 record and a 2.58 ERA for the Houston Astros' Class A affiliate. In 160 innings, Kelley struck out 121 and walked only 56.

Jeff Anderson, the only Cornhusker to be drafted last year, pitched briefly for the Chicago White Sox' Rookie League team in Niagara Falls, N.Y. before being sidelined with a sore arm. Anderson underwent surgery and is spending the off-season as a pitching coach at Lubbock Christian.

you can look it up

Did you know that in 1917, the Nebraska football team defeated Nebraska Wesleyan 100-0? Nebraska scored 15 touchdowns that day but had only 39 points at halftime. A season football ticket, for five home games, cost \$9.

In 1911, Nebraska opened the football season by defeating Kearney Normal, 117-0. In the final game of the 1910 season, Nebraska posted a 119-0 victory over the Haskell Indians.

Continued on page 58



Wisconsin's Mike Heineman falls as he and Brian Carr (10) scramble for a loose ball in Wisconsin's Fieldhouse in the 1983 contest. The Huskers nipped the Badgers in the double overtime game, 71-69.

When you look at Brian Carr, you see a good, clean-cut, fun-loving kid.

He's so skinny, he doesn't look a pound over 150. He's got enough curl in his latest perm to give him the benefit of that doubt.

Carr looks like the kid you used to visualize in those sports mini-novels you read in junior high school.

You know the type — all legs, no should-

ers and a smile that stretches from one ear to the other. You can't help but like him because he likes everybody and he stands for everything that's right.

We like Brian, yes we do. We like Brian, how about you?

He's so darn nice and so doggone unphysical-looking, even the opponents like to see Brian Carr warm up and be introduced as a starter.

Somehow, he looks like raw hamburger in the Big Eight Conference.

But that is where this charade must end.

Brian Carr is expected to be the quarterback — or is it floor general? — for Nebraska's basketball team this winter.

He is expected to direct the offense, help lead the defense and keep everyone in control, including Dave Hoppen.

Now, does that sound like a job for a little kid? Would you trust your whole basketball team with anyone less than a real man?

Hey, Brian Carr doesn't eat quiche. He may look just slightly more intimidating than Tom Sawyer. But he's got the eye of a tiger and the heart of a lion.

Listen to Bill Harrell, the ex-Nebraska basketball assistant coach who now coaches at Muncie Central High School in Indiana.

"You know who Brian reminds me of? That guard from Notre Dame who signed a contract with Portland — Rich Paxson," Harrell said.

"His fluid movement is the same kind of ability Brian has. He's always doing the right thing with the ball. He's like Jack Moore — once he gets to the free throw line, it's lights out for the other team. He's always going to do what needs to be done to score."

Harrell, of course, coached the late Jack Moore at Muncie Central and helped send him to Nebraska.

Moore gave the Huskers three exciting, productive seasons and wound up an All-Big Eight player in the process.

Moore left an incredible legacy and now, Nebraska is preparing for three more years of leadership from another Muncie point guard.

Harrell didn't coach Carr at Burris High School in Muncie. But he helped spot him and send him to Lincoln.

That may seem strange, considering how big Muncie is on basketball. But Burris is the little high school in the city, a laboratory for Ball State University.

Because he played there, Carr was somewhat of a well-kept secret. Major college recruiters knew a little bit about him in talent-rich Indiana. But he was easily ignored, perhaps because, appearance-wise, he just didn't look the part.

To give you an idea of how obscure Brian Carr was, guess who finished second in his recruitment?

Carr — Unlikely Floor General

But Coach Iba has confidence in the 6-1, 167-pound sophomore point guard from Indiana

Would you believe Dodge City Junior College in Kansas?

But don't let that fact influence your judgement. Carr can play. He proved that as a freshman. Even though he didn't start any games, he played in all 30. He averaged 16.4 minutes of playing time and 4.6 points a game. He shot .518 from the field, mostly from the first row in the student bleacher section.

But here's the statistic that may be the most important. Carr finished the season with 78 assists. That's five more than guard Eric Williams, who started all 30 games and averaged 33.2 minutes a game, and seven fewer than forward Stan Cloudy, who started 29 games and averaged 34.8 minutes of playing time.

Carr carved his reputation as a shooter, but he's the slickest passer the Huskers have had in years. That's why Nebraska Coach Moe Iba is asking him to run the show and get the ball to all the right places.

He's been doing it since he could play paddleball against the curb.

Growing up in Indiana, "basketball was my life," Carr said. "I started playing when I was six and seven years old."

In Indiana, playing means devoting. It does not mean going out and shooting around whenever the mood hits you.

"There are so many high school players who are blue-chippers in Indiana," Harrell said. "They're the kids who get up in the morning and play before they even have a bite for breakfast. They go get a basketball and play 12 months a year."

Brian Carr was that kind of player. He

scored more than 1,200 points at Burris and was chosen the team's Most Valuable Player for four consecutive seasons.

His final two seasons at Burris, he was the leading prep scorer in the city of Muncie. As a senior, he averaged 23 points a game. He hit 78.8 percent from the free throw line and 52.5 percent from the field.

By then, Bill Harrell was firmly convinced that Brian Carr was a major college player. But he spotted that ability long before it became obvious.

"I watched Brian play in the eighth grade and he wanted to come to our school. But I think he questioned if he could play here, so he went to Burris," said Harrell, the only coach in history to win state championships in both Indiana and Kentucky, two states that still use the one-class system.

When Carr was an eighth-grader, Harrell knew he could handle any level of competition. The kid, after all, once scored 52 points in a junior high game...and he wasn't shooting layups.

"I knew he was super talented. It was easy to see that," Harrell said. "But Brian was a quiet, unassuming kid and he wanted to follow all his friends to Burris."

Harrell, being an honorable sort of man, did not try to influence Carr and turn him around.

"I would have talked to him and it would have been legal," he said. "But we were coming off two straight state championships and if transfers like him started coming into our school, people would think I was out recruiting."

Harrell knew Carr was a rising star. And even though the skinny kid never wore a Muncie Central uniform, Harrell never lost his appreciation for Carr's talents.

Central defeated a 16-6 Burris team in the first round of sectional play when Carr was a senior. Carr showed his big-time ability in that game, but the highlight of his prep career may have come four years earlier.

"It sounds horrible, but I think it came during my freshman year when we were 6-16," he recalled. "We beat Muncie South, a school three times as big, in the sectional tournament by 10 points."

In the next round of the sectionals that freshman season, Burris almost upset Muncie North. "We had 'em beat until the final two minutes," Carr said. "I only scored three points the whole game, but I got the ball to the right places and made the All-Sectional team."

"In Muncie, that's a big honor," Carr said. "I'll never forget as long as I live...they were comparing me to Jack. That'll never leave me."

Jack Moore was a legend. He was a tremendous inspiration to all the young players in Muncie at the time.

"I saw him play when I was in seventh and eighth grade," Carr said. "I couldn't believe how good he was. I still remember watching him on TV in the state tournament. I loved watching him. I don't know if I pattern myself after anyone, but I try to work hard at all aspects of the game."

Making All-Sectional as a freshman is a tribute to that desire. If you think Carr is

non-physical-looking now, you should have seen him when he was a freshman in high school.

"I was a little beanpole," he admitted. "People think I'm skinny now and I've put on 10 pounds from last year. I'm 6-1 and 167. When I was a freshman in high school, I was 5-9 and 120 pounds. But I was only 14 years old."

Carr learned how to compete and how to work from two older brothers — Chris, 28, and Erik, 25.

"Whenever they played, I played," said Brian, who still holds out hope that his size will someday match what he considers aggressive eating habits.

"Chris is 6-2 and 205 and Erik is 6-2 and 210," Brian pointed out. "I'll probably put on some weight eventually. My brothers both beefed up."

The Carrs all liked basketball. But it was Brian's intense interest that led to his shooting a volleyball into a hoop in the family living room.

"We took a real basketball goal, cut the braces off and slid it onto the front door," recalled Carr, who insists the height of the

living room ceiling accounts for "the low trajectory on my shot."

Carr is, by far, the best basketball player in his family. Chris was a better baseball player. Erik concentrated on swimming. Melodie, their sister, was a ballerina, who was selected for a special ballet company to dance with Mikhail Baryshnikov in Louisville.

Carr's dedication to basketball is, in part, a result of watching his sister and brothers strive for excellence. "I attribute whatever success I've had to them," he said.

No one can say Carr isn't grateful. He dedicated his NU scholarship to his parents. He said it was one way to pay them back for the door he ruined in the living room.

Carr's father teaches handicapped children and his mother is a fourth-grade teacher. "That's why I'm in Teachers College," he said. "It's in my background."

Carr is appreciative to the late Jack Moore for endorsing his talents and he is appreciative to Harrell for helping pave the way to his scholarship.

"He's a fine young man," Harrell said. "It's just so happened that when he played in the sectionals, I happened to sit in the seat right next to his mother."

When Harrell realized that a junior college and Miami of Ohio were the only two schools showing early recruiting interest in Carr, he contacted NU assistant Tom Baack.

"Tom's an old Indiana boy," Harrell said. "He's lived here. He understands about Indiana players. He knows that every kid who goes on the court is a tough competitor. He knows that in Muncie, kids play before 9,000 people in a regular-season game. Some kids (in other states) don't even get to do that in a state championship game."

Baack didn't hesitate to follow a hot lead. "If Bill Harrell says a kid can play, I don't even ask questions," Baack said. "He'd played against Brian in the sectionals. He knew how he could control the ball and shoot the ball."

Baack knew, too, after he went to Burris and saw Carr practice.

"It's a real small gym," Baack said. "The walls come right up to the out-of-bounds line. It's a band box. You shoot a lay-in and you hit the wall. It's like University High in Lincoln used to be."

University High was a laboratory school for NU. It is no longer in existence. Burris has an enrollment of approximately 200 as the lab school for Ball State.

"We beat Burris by nine points in Brian's senior year," Harrell said. "He's a tremendous player. I'm not even sure Jack was All-Sectional as a freshman."

For Baack, it was a relatively easy sales job. "When we brought him out to visit in October, no one else was recruiting

Brian," he said. "He hadn't been to any summer camps. We knew about him through Bill and Jack."

Carr was immediately impressed. "He visited during homecoming weekend and got to see Diana Ross in a concert," Baack said. "It surprised me that nobody else was recruiting him. Brian's a great player. He can shoot. He's sound fundamentally. He's smart, quick and he has speed."

And he's a good kid. "If you don't like Brian Carr, you don't like anybody," Baack said. "He's so conscientious, so down to earth, so easy-going. It's hard to get mad at him. I'd do anything in the world for him."

Baack admitted that he had "some question" about Carr "being so frail" and his ability to hold up as a freshman.

But the first week of practice dispelled that question. Carr was far from the perfect freshman guard. But he did survive and he did work himself into position to assume control this season.

"I knew with the loss of David Ponce and Eric Williams, I was coming into a pretty good situation," he said. "I knew I had to work hard because of the recruiting class we had."

Carr spent time playing both guard positions as a freshman. "But I feel more comfortable running the show," he said. "I've always been a point guard."

In his new role, "I'm really working on not shooting the ball that much," Carr said. "We've got great shooters on this team. We've got one of the best shooting teams around with Dave Hoppen in the middle."

It is Carr's job to weave all that shooting together and he relishes the challenge.

"I can pass a lot better than I can shoot," he said. "I know my shooting stood out more last year. But I know what Coach Iba wants in his offense and I'm going to do it. I love to play and I know the way we have to play to win."

For Carr, an assist always has been more exciting than scoring a basket himself. "There's a sense of excitement to a great pass," he said. "You hear the crowd and you know you've helped somebody."

Carr is Iba's self-appointed coach on the floor. "He wants somebody to take control of the team, so we don't get out of whack," Carr said. "He doesn't want somebody going a hundred miles an hour. He doesn't want chaos."

"I don't think there's a team in any league that can go haywire," Carr said. "But we have to be just perfect in our offense. We've got to be organized, offensively and defensively. That's the way Coach Iba has always played and always will play."

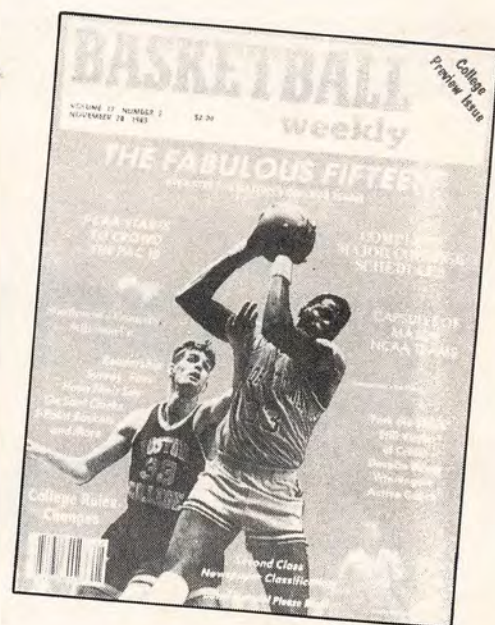
Carr likes those demands. "In high school, I played on a team just like that," he said. "We never had the raw ability to

Continued on page 50

Brian Carr



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Tom Osborne

The Coach

By Randy York

EDITOR'S NOTE: Last issue, we profiled Tom Osborne in his early years as an athlete. The following, the second part of our three part Tom Osborne profile, focuses on Tom Osborne — The Coach, the second-winningest coach in college football today.

Last winter, a national magazine asked 80 major college head football coaches who they thought was the best coach in America and why.

The overwhelming choice was Tom Osborne.

Fifty-nine ballots were returned and 20 voted for Nebraska's head coach. His stiffest competition came from Michigan's Bo Schembechler and Penn State's Joe Paterno, each of whom received nine votes.

On a busy Friday in mid-October, Osborne was asked to reflect on that overwhelming endorsement from his peers.

In characteristic fashion, he dismissed the validity of the poll and reduced its dramatic impact to the point where the interviewer was almost sorry he even brought it up.

"Those things are cyclical," Osborne said. "That poll may have been taken after the Orange Bowl. I know it wasn't taken after Syracuse. If you did a poll every six months, you'd get a different name every six months."

The poll, no doubt, would be based on which coach was hot and which coach was not. And Osborne was hot after Nebraska lost to Miami in the Orange Bowl.

He was hot because he went for a two-point conversion pass and even though it failed, he earned the respect of an entire nation.

The decision was considered a profile of courage, not a strategic blunder.

"That took a lot of guts," Nebraska Athletic Director Bob Devaney said. "They should have given Tom National Coach of the Year just for making that call."

Courage was one reason Devaney hand-picked Osborne to succeed. Knowledge was the other. When Devaney experienced back-to-back 6-4 seasons in 1967 and '68, he knew the Huskers needed a transfusion. And Osborne was the doctor he assigned to pump new blood into the program.

Devaney asked Osborne to redesign the Nebraska offense, from top to bottom.

Eighteen years later, Osborne is a little uncomfortable talking about the pivotal point that led to Nebraska's back-to-back national championships and Husker finishes in the final top 10 ratings every year since.

He does it on one condition — that everyone understand that even though he did what Devaney asked him to do, "Bob still ran the whole show. All I did was call a few

plays up in the press box."

And change Nebraska's whole approach to offensive football. Thanks to Osborne, the Huskers went from a rather rudimentary, outdated philosophy to a system so innovative and sophisticated that opponents are still forever befuddled.

"It kind of evolved over a period of time," Osborne said. "At one time, most of the meetings we had with the players were done on the field. If you put in a new play, you'd have to go out, practice and talk 'em through the play."

"Everything was descriptive. It really wasn't possible to audible here," he said. "We didn't have numbers. Every play was described. The first seven years, we were very successful with the system Bob brought from Wyoming. And then we began to falter."

"It wasn't so much the system as the players," Osborne said.

Still, Devaney mentioned to Osborne that he wanted to redesign the offense. "He wanted me to take a look at things, bring 'em in and we'd talk 'em over."

Osborne followed orders and "a lot of what we looked at was Oklahoma because they'd beaten us 47 to nothing," he recalled. "They were in the I-formation and we

Tom Osborne — The Coach



Coach Osborne and staff doing their job on the sidelines during this year's UCLA game.

had a lot of trouble stopping them.

"I got ideas from other teams, too," Osborne said. "We put 'em together and started a new offense in 1969. We changed the numbering system, we went out and recruited some junior college linemen and we took some key players from Cleve Fischer's unbeaten freshman team and went 9-2."

The following two seasons, of course, the Huskers won national championships.

Looking back all these years, Osborne thinks Devaney asked him to redesign the offense "because I hadn't been that deeply engrained in the other offensive system Bob had been working with."

Again, though, "it wasn't just the system," Osborne said. "A lot of it was people. We had the right people running the plays."

And, Devaney will say, the right people calling them.

The buck stopped with Devaney. But in his gloriest years on the sideline, somebody up there liked him in the press box.

Devaney called Osborne "a genius" in diagnosing defensive weaknesses and exploiting them with an adjustable attack.

If the communication improved between press box to sideline, a lot of it was the result of a simple suggestion.

"I told Bob we ought to have quarterback meetings," Osborne recalled. "Like everywhere else, you just didn't meet much in those days. Bob thought it was a good idea and put me in charge of it."

Daily meetings led to "more communication with the quarterbacks on the head-phones," Osborne said. "It kind of evolved over a period of three or four years."

Devaney's high-scoring national championship teams had a double stamp and one of them was Osborne's brilliance in

the press box.

Again, Osborne minimizes his role. "Before I did anything," he said, "I always checked with Bob."

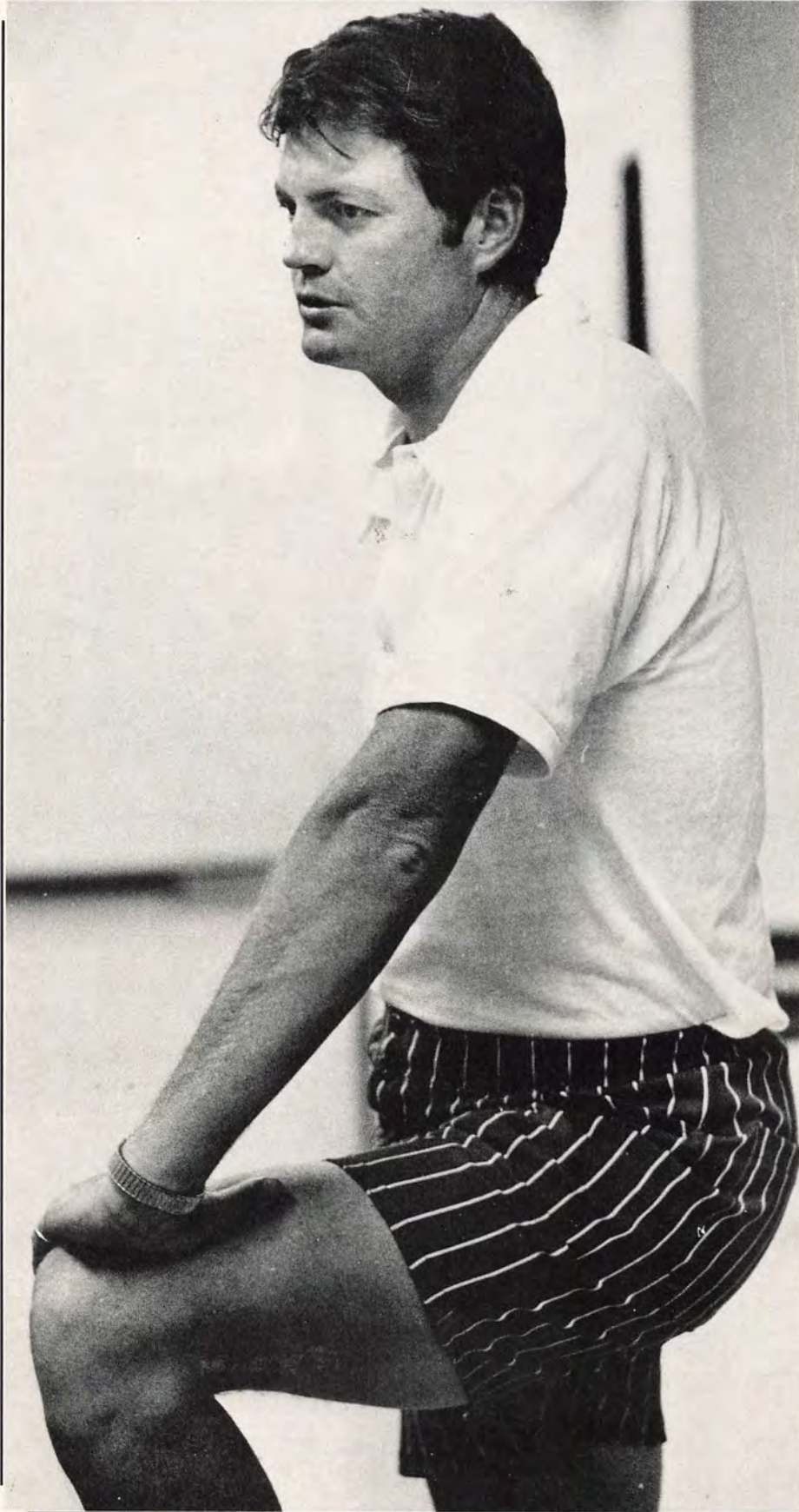
Devaney was a brilliant coach with a brilliant sense of delegating authority. And the more he gave Osborne, the better the Huskers were.

If it's true that part of being a great coach is knowing when to give it up, Devaney mastered that cliché, too. He knew when to pass the torch to Tom Osborne and Devaney will be the first to tell anyone that maintaining Nebraska's excellence is every bit as difficult as launching it.

Last December, when Nebraska was still living the dream of having perhaps the greatest college team of all time, Osborne was constantly questioned about how he put it all together.

After one mid-week Orange Bowl practice, a Miami writer kept pursuing the theme about how Howard Schnellenberger was building a program at Miami

Tom Osborne — The Coach



Tom Osborne as he addressed the Big Eight Skywriters in his rookie season as Nebraska's head coach.

and how Tom Osborne was maintaining one at Nebraska.

The writer wanted to chronicle that before Schnellenberger, six different head coaches in nine years had left a trail of broken hearts and broken promises that had to be healed in Miami.

Osborne didn't have that problem. He "inherited" a powerhouse from Devaney and the inference was, he just had to write the right blank checks, wave a little wand and the kingdom would be saved.

Nebraska was being hit with a new concept — checkbook coaching.

Osborne, of course, did not see the challenge in those fundamental terms.

"Most people feel building a program is harder than maintaining one," he said. "I don't know which is harder. We tried to maintain the status quo at Nebraska."

But when he was forced to deal with roughly two-thirds of the scholarships Devaney enjoyed, Osborne questioned the practicality.

"Frankly I didn't think we'd be able to stay anywhere near the same level," he said. "I thought the Big Eight Conference as a whole would suffer greatly."

Osborne knew he was inheriting tradition, better facilities and players who believed in themselves. But he also knew he was fighting distance, population and weather.

"We decided we had to emphasize the walkon program more, emphasize the weight program more and emphasize the academic program more," Osborne said.

"We felt it was really important for us to develop what we had there. We couldn't afford to recruit guys and lose 'em. We had to maximize their potential. We had to keep the freshman program and keep it strong.

"People keep asking me what we're doing different and I don't know," he said. "I know one thing, though. Whenever we go 6-5, they won't be asking.

"It's cyclical," Osborne insisted. "We happen to have good recruiting classes. We're not magicians. We just work hard. That's all."

Malcolm Moran, a *New York Times* writer who spent 10 days in Lincoln last December waiting for a 45-minute interview with Osborne, reached a conclusion before returning to New York.

After hearing all kinds of rumors and all

Tom Osborne — The Coach



Oklahoma coach Barry Switzer covered his eyes as Nebraska coach Tom Osborne tossed him the question of the game score at a press conference before No. 1 rated Oklahoma met No. 4 Nebraska in a fight for the Orange Bowl berth in 1978.

kinds of innuendos about Nebraska's walkon program, Moran decided local writers knew the situation better than national writers, the eternal skeptics.

"If all these guys were so great, why didn't somebody else recruit 'em out of high school?" Moran said. "It's not like Nebraska gets players other people want."

In Moran's eyes, NU walkons are true phenomenons.

"This is supposed to be an age of instant gratification for athletes at almost all levels," he said. "Yet you have players who will go to Nebraska on blind faith. They're willing to get pushed and shoved, yelled at and lift weights for three or four years just to play one or two."

Three prime examples of that very concept started in Nebraska's offensive backfield against Oklahoma — quarterback Travis Turner, wingback Shane Swanson and fullback Scott Porter.

Turner walked on from Scottsbluff in the Nebraska Panhandle. He may have been the only walkon starting at quarterback in the country this year. At Ne-

braska, Mr. T went from the scout team to the A-team, from fourth team as a third-year sophomore to first team as a fourth-year junior.

Phenomenal. But no more phenomenal than Swanson, who waited in line two years behind the infinitely more gifted Irving Fryar, then had an All-Big Eight type of season as a fifth-year senior.

For Swanson, who grew up on a farm doing all kinds of chores, it was more grindstone than glamour. He became a starter the old-fashioned way. He earned it.

For that matter, the whole 1984 team was a bunch of grindstone cowboys and no one worked harder or waited longer than Porter.

Tom Osborne — The Coach



A jovial Osborne during a press conference in 1979.

the shadow of Devaney. He thinks some of the more influential fans still view him as the assistant rather than the head coach.

If acceptance has been slow in coming, Osborne is nearing that last card in a full deck.

But will it change the overview on a sport he loves?

Not likely. Devaney, for one, thinks Osborne has the discipline to coach well into his sixties.

"He could go after Bear Bryant's record if he wanted to," offered Nebraska's athletic director.

But does a man some believe has the talent to be a university president really want to recruit 18-year-olds when he's 50 or 60?

For Osborne, coaching stretches beyond winning. "Coaching is a good business," he said.

But the facts, he admitted, puzzle him.

"You go to a coaching convention and look around the room and there are not very many people there over 50 and even fewer there over 60," related Osborne.

"And yet coaching is a profession. You go to a medical meeting or a lawyers' convention and you see large numbers of people over 50 and 60. They are respected, men in the prime of their knowledge."

At 47, Osborne realizes "coaching is a terminal profession with a high mortality rate" and he has a theory about it.

It's a terminal profession, Osborne said, "because we tend to evaluate ourselves the way everybody else does. We think our worth is based on our win-loss record. We think we're unsuccessful because we haven't won enough games."

Even though he moved ahead of Paterno and is now the nation's second winningest active head coach, Osborne begs to differ.

"Eventually, about as many coaches drive themselves out of the business as much as outside influences — school boards, regents, the press, public pressure, whatever — a lot of it is self-imposed pressure," Osborne said.

Yes, Osborne thinks "it's possible for a team to go 0 and 10 and be successful in terms of having come as close as it can to realizing its potential...giving a good effort, preparing well, being intense on the field."

And sometimes, you can't quite pinpoint the whole problem.

"After our loss to Syracuse, naturally, I was disappointed," Osborne said. "But I knew it was not because of a lack of effort

He was a scholarship player who had one major knee operation as a senior in high school, another major one on the other knee after his freshman year in college, plus arthroscopic surgery the following spring.

"I've had some bad luck and played behind some great players and had some great coaching," Porter said.

Scott Porter did not play in the 1983 Oklahoma game or the 1984 Orange Bowl. He did not start until the 10th game of his fifth year against Kansas. But he has never complained, not once.

Blind faith will do that to a red-blooded Cornhusker. "The first thing Coach Os-

borne tells you as a freshman is to stick around and in time, you'll get a chance," Porter said. "My chance came in my fifth year."

Porter is a native of Nebraska City. How Nebraskanized can you be?

Osborne has made Nebraska natives the heart and soul of his football teams and filled in the blanks with imported skill players.

It has been a carefully crafted master plan. He has honed it and refined it for 12 years and it is just now, in the last two years, capturing the imagination of a nation.

To some, Osborne always has lived in

Tom Osborne — The Coach

Osborne, not looking too happy with the call, during the 1983 Syracuse game.

and I knew in many ways, we had done the best we could on that given day.

"You can't be terribly disappointed," Osborne said. "You can't be terribly up and you can't be terribly down."

That's how Osborne built that bridge over troubled water — all the way from a loss to Syracuse back up to a share of the Big Eight Championship and a spot in the Sugar Bowl.

Somehow, it seems appropriate that it happened to a man who won the nation's admiration for that two-point conversion failure against Miami.

Somehow, it seems appropriate that Osborne's isn't in coaching strictly for the wins and the losses.

"There's always a certain tension between what's expected of you and what you expect of yourself," said Osborne, who admits it's "really important" to know the difference.

"As coaches and players, our goal is to prepare the best and to play the best we possibly can...and to live with the results and accept them with a certain amount of dignity, win or lose. That's what you hope you're about."

If that's too philosophical for those consumed by another quest for a national championship, consider that Osborne probably wants to win as much as you do.

Although he insists his primary goal in coaching "is not the win-loss record, is not going to a bowl game and is not being No. 1," he admits that "being human, it is very difficult not to expect to go to a major bowl game and not to expect to be No. 1."

Osborne seemingly is willing to pay that price only as long as it doesn't interfere with his honor and integrity.

Remember last Jan. 2 when he could have kicked a simple little extra point and backed into his first national championship?

The thought never entered his mind and he has never looked back. He would do it again, again and again.

Devaney likes Osborne's style. He likes his conviction.

"I've just never seen a guy do so many things right and yet be so unlucky," he said.

Osborne is a snake-bitten man when it comes to national championships. First Clemson. Then Penn State on a moveable field. Then Miami. Now, Oklahoma.

If Osborne didn't live on a strong religi-

Continued on page 51



Mr. Everywhere

Burke went through puberty between the third and fourth quarters of the '82 Penn State classic, derived motivation from Jack Lalane between his junior and senior seasons and in his senior season, became a stand out cornerback for Nebraska.

By Mike Babcock

Early in the third quarter of the Nebraska football team's 27-24 loss to Penn State at University Park, Pa., in 1982, Cornhusker cornerback Allan Lyday was sidelined by a knee injury.

Lyday's replacement was Dave Burke, a third-year sophomore who had been a running back until the previous spring.

One play after Burke entered the game, Penn State flanker Kenny Jackson ran a post pattern in Burke's direction. Todd Blackledge, the Nittany Lions' quarterback, hit Jackson, in stride, on an 18-yard touchdown pass.

It was apparent Blackledge had decided to pick on the inexperienced player in Nebraska's secondary. Each time the speedy Jackson lined up on Burke's side, he'd warn Burke: "Here I come."

Players on the Penn State sideline tried to add to Burke's uncertainty with taunts of "You can't cover him."

Burke, a fierce competitor who refused to be intimidated despite his inexperience, suppressed the urge to respond to the Nittany Lion bench.

"I knew he could run by me, and I stayed back at first," Burke said afterward. By the fourth quarter, however, "I was playing about as well as I could. I got some valuable experience."





Burke (33) goes all out and up on the pass coverage against Minnesota (1984).

Nebraska defensive backs Coach Bob Thornton put it more succinctly. After the game, Thornton told Burke he had gone through puberty between the third and fourth quarters.

"I matured quite a bit," said Burke.

One week later, in Auburn, Ala., Burke started for the first time in his college career. He found out Lyday wouldn't be able to play just minutes before the opening kickoff.

"I have vivid recollections of that game," he said. Some things are difficult to forget.

Auburn scored its only touchdown in the 41-7 loss on freshman Bo Jackson's six-yard run. Jackson took a pitchout on an option play and was one-on-one, in the open field, with Burke.

Burke broke from the end zone toward Jackson, and when it appeared a collision was imminent at the two-yard line, Jackson ducked his shoulder.

Anticipating Jackson's charge, "I bent over and stuck my head down," Burke said. Jackson hurdled him.

Instead of putting his shoulder into Jackson, a surprised Burke wrapped up nothing but air.

That wasn't his only embarrassment that warm Saturday afternoon in October.

Later in the game, Burke was sent back to return a punt and fumbled away the ball at his own 10-yard line. Fortunately, the Cornhuskers got the ball back on an Auburn fumble.

"Things like that really stick out," said Burke. "When they happen to you and you're young, they can be real learning experiences."

Burke learned quickly.

"I made a couple of plays and got some confidence," he said.

The seeds of success had been planted.

Dave Burke never intended to be a defensive back when he signed a letter of intent to come to Nebraska out of Layton, Utah, High School in 1980.

His experience as a cornerback amounted to the last three games at the end of his senior year, when he was asked to fill in for an injured teammate.

Until then, Burke had been a weakside linebacker on defense.

His strength, however, was offense. Burke ran with the ball better than any other high school player in Utah.

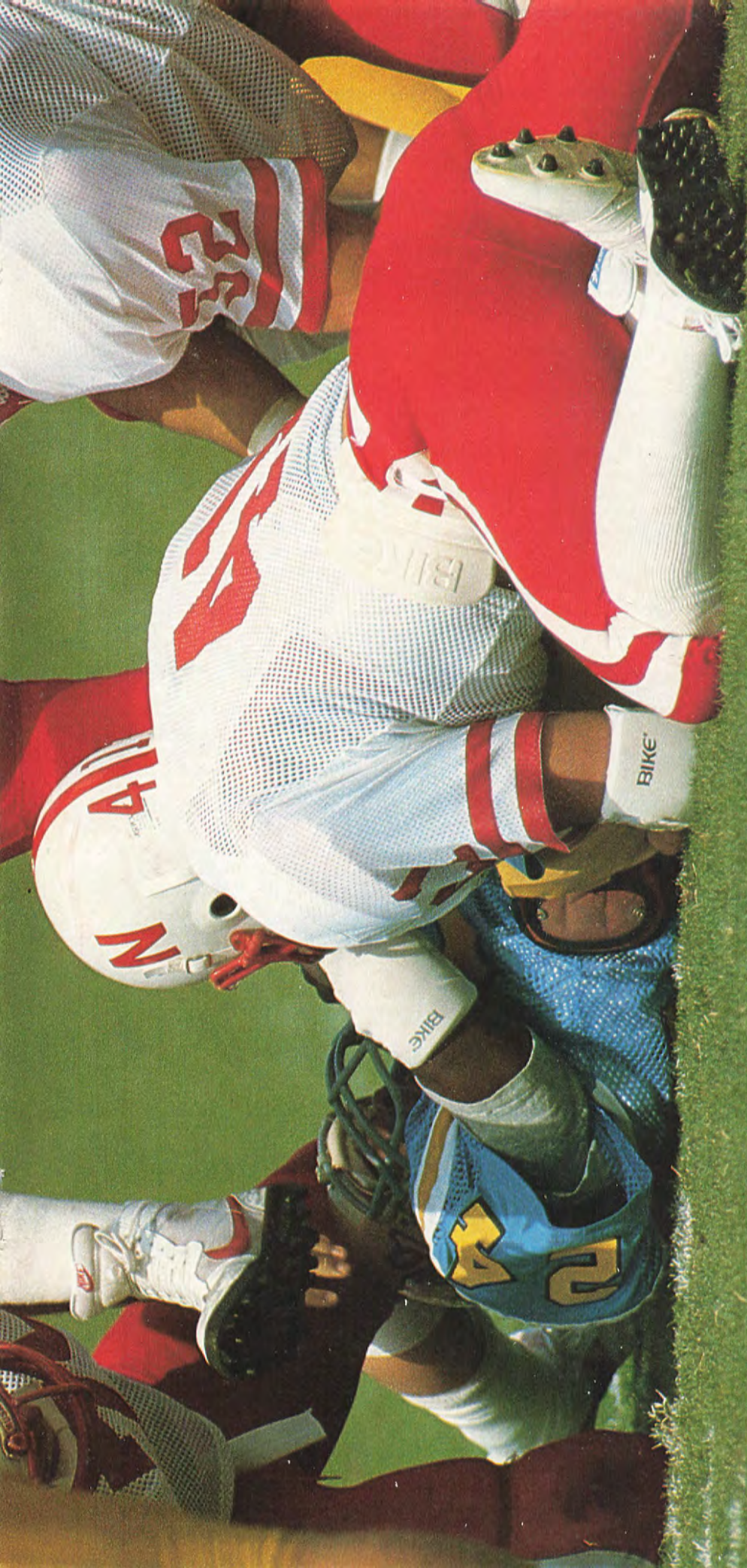
He ran well enough that not only Nebraska but also Arkansas, Arizona State and Tennessee were interested in him as a ball carrier.

As a junior, Burke rushed for 1,473 yards and scored 17 touchdowns to lead Layton to the state 4A championship.

The Salt Lake City Tribune named him Utah's "High School Football Player of the Year."

His senior year, Burke received similar recognition from *The Deseret News*, the state's other major newspaper, after rushing for 1,700 yards and scoring 22 touchdowns, and he was given the Hertz No.





**No. 1 Defense
In The Nation!**

1 Award, a presentation to an athlete from each state for a single outstanding performance.

Burke earned the award for a game in which he rushed for 247 yards on 11 carries, scored four touchdowns and passed for another.

Nebraska recruited Burke as a running back, and that was one of the main reasons he picked the Cornhuskers over Arkansas, his second choice.

"I wanted to run the ball for a running team," he said. "I had no intention, at all, of playing defense. I had stars in my eyes about scoring touchdowns."

Lou Holtz, then the head coach at Arkansas, told Burke he'd have a chance to come in and start for the Razorbacks as a freshman.

Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne's only promise was that Burke would have as good a chance as anyone else of playing as a sophomore, after Jarvis Redwine and Craig Johnson were gone.

Burke was one of four high school running backs who accepted scholarship offers from Nebraska in the winter of 1980. The others included some familiar names: Jeff Smith from Wichita, Kan., Ricky Greene from Seminole, Texas, and Mike Rozier from Camden, N.J.

Rozier, last year's Heisman Trophy winner, had to attend junior college in Coffeyville, Kan., to remove some academic deficiencies before he could become a Cornhusker.

That left Burke, Smith, and Greene as the scholarship I-backs on Nebraska's undefeated freshman junior varsity team in 1980.

While Smith was plagued by injuries and Greene was limited to 10 carries during the fall, Burke led the jayvees in rushing. He was the workhorse in an offense which featured the options of quarterback Turner Gill and pass catching of Irving Fryar, gaining 334 yards on 60 carries and scoring four touchdowns in five games.

Being a running back on that team was easy, Burke said. "The thing I remember most about that freshman team was how big the offensive line was. I couldn't believe the size of that line.

"I remember the gaping holes I had to run through. We ran the veer in high school, and I was used to the quick, popping plays."

The junior varsity line that fall included Mark Behning and Mark Traynowicz at tackles, Anthony Thomas and Harry Grimmer at guards, and Scott McLaughlin, who later transferred to Rice University, at center.

"They were as big as the varsity linemen," said Burke.

Prior to his first junior varsity game, Burke got into a pair of varsity games, gaining 24 yards on three carries against Utah and carrying twice for two yards in a 57-0 victory over Iowa.

There was no indication he'd ever be anything but a running back.

The second year was the most difficult time of Dave Burke's college football career. Like nearly every Cornhusker, Burke was redshirted as a sophomore.

"There's nothing so mundane as being a redshirt," said Burke. "You don't get to play in games, and you have to take all the abuse of running scout squad.

"You don't feel like things have gone your way, and it doesn't seem like you're going anywhere."

A season on the sideline and the anonymity of the redshirt nearly convinced Burke he'd be better off elsewhere. The most likely place was Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Scott Norberg, Burke's close friend and freshman roommate, transferred to BYU after his first season, and "I knew some players there who thought I'd fit in," said Burke, who joined the Mormon Church

Burke will come right at you.



during his sophomore year.

He waited, however, and by the end of spring practice that second year at Nebraska, Burke had decided to stay.

His decision was based, in part, on a surprising change which was made the Friday before the start of spring drills. A note was taped to his locker that day, telling him to report to Nebraska head Coach Tom Osborne and assistant Mike Corgan, then the Cornhuskers' running backs coach.

He didn't necessarily think he'd be asked to switch positions, but "I knew something was up," said Burke.

Before he met with Osborne and Corgan, Burke encountered Bob Thornton, the secondary coach. "We want you to try defensive back," Thornton said.

Burke was surprised.

"Playing defensive back had never entered my mind," he said.

Even so, "I was pretty level-headed about it," said Burke. "I never doubted my ability as a running back, but I was more than happy to change. In fact, I was enthusiastic about it."

For one thing, he realized that the varsity's top two I-backs, Roger Craig and Mike Rozier, "were phenomenal athletes." For another, "I was told I could always switch back."

Once Burke made the change, he never considered returning to offense. Cornerback meant opportunity, particularly for someone with Burke's speed — he'd run :04.64 in the 40-yard dash, a time he's since dropped another three-hundredths of a second.

In addition, "he's always had great quickness, and in a cornerback, quickness is more important than flat-out speed," said Thornton.

Burke ranked No. 1, all-time, in Nebraska strength Coach Boyd Epley's agility run, until the drill was changed to begin with a standing start. Initially, the test began with the athlete lying on his back.

He had to get up, spin around and run the agility course.

Burke has always gotten to his feet quickly. He's never been down for long.

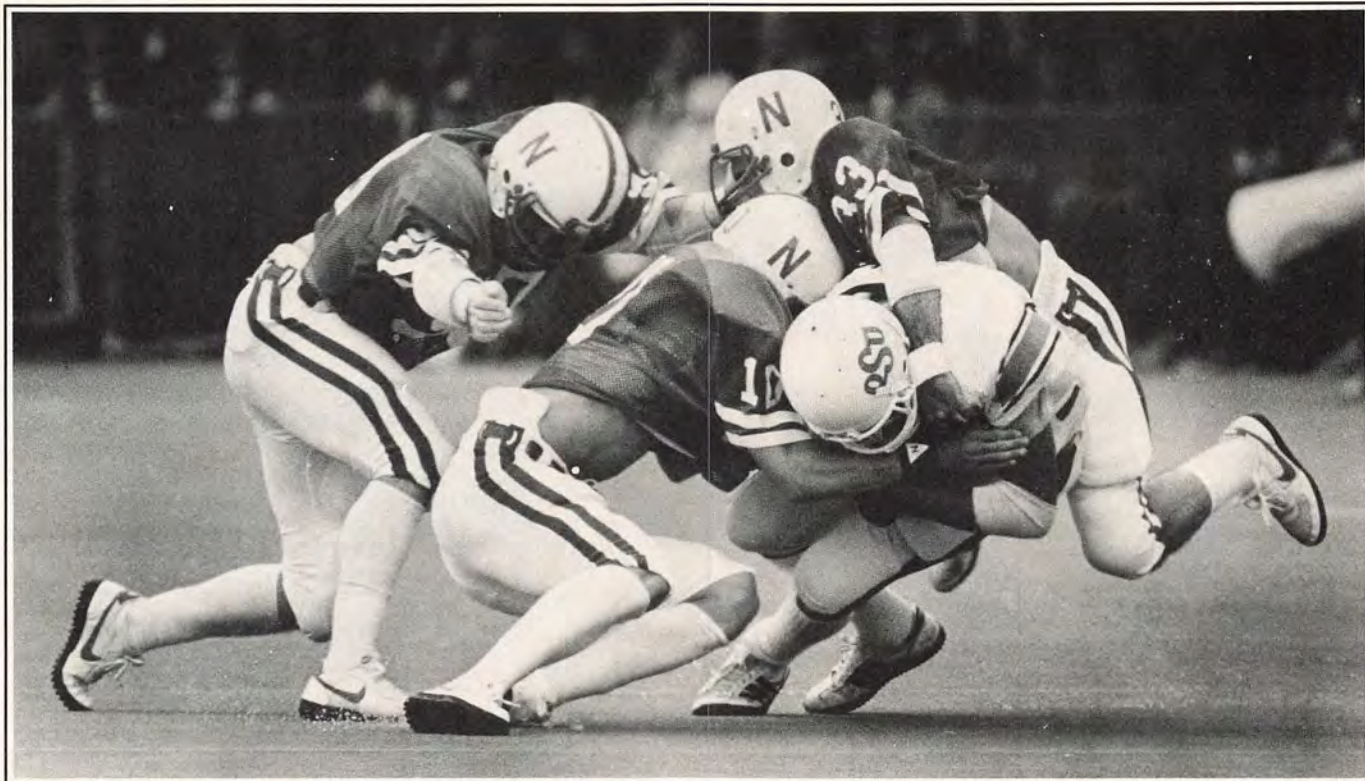
Nebraska had just defeated Oklahoma State, 17-3, in this year's Big Eight opener at Memorial Stadium, and defensive tackle Jim Skow was trying to describe Dave Burke's performance.

"He was like a ghost. He was Mr. Everywhere," said Skow.

Burke played consistently well throughout his senior season, but never did he play better than that afternoon against Oklahoma State. Many of his contributions were obvious.

In the first quarter, it was Burke who worked his way into a clip that cost Oklahoma State a touchdown.

With 43 seconds remaining in the first half, it was Burke who intercepted a Rusty Hilger pass in the end zone to thwart another Cowboy scoring opportunity.



Burke (33) assists safety Bret Clark (10) in bringing down the OSU ball carrier in the '84 sectional rivalry.

Early in the second half, it was the 5-10, 188-pound Burke who dropped 230-pound tailback Charles Crawford for a four-yard loss to give the Cornhusker Black Shirts an emotional lift.

It was Burke who recovered a Crawford fumble, caused by Mike McCashland's jarring tackle, and it was Burke who threw the first block to open up Shane Swanson's 49-yard punt return for the touchdown that, for all intents and purposes, decided the game.

It was also Burke who deflected Hilger's final pass, on a third-and-10 from the Nebraska 25-yard line with 4:29 remaining. "Mr. Sunday saved my bacon on that one," McCashland said later.

"Mr. Sunday" was a nickname given to Burke after the Minnesota game.

It came from a comment by Gopher running back Tony Hunter. "That guy (Burke) can hit," said Hunter. "I think he can play not only on Saturdays, but on Sundays, too — if not the NFL, then the USFL, for sure."

Minnesota Coach Lou Holtz, who once recruited Burke as a running back when he was at Arkansas, said Burke "made a hit in front of me that was so good, I got behind the bench."

Burke played well against Minnesota, but he was nothing short of spectacular in the Oklahoma State game.

"I'm about as happy as I've ever been in my life," he said after finishing with seven tackles, six of them unassisted, to earn recognition from *Sports Illustrated* as its national "Defensive Player of the Week."

Dave Burke wore jersey No. 26 when he suited up as a freshman for Nebraska's 1980 season-opener against Utah. The next week, he wore No. 16 in the Iowa game. Burke wore No. 34 in high school, and he hoped that when Andy Means graduated, he'd get his old number.

When he made the Cornhusker varsity, as a redshirted sophomore, Burke was assigned jersey No. 33.

He's worn that number in every game since then, except one.

Prior to Nebraska's national championship battle with Miami in last year's Orange Bowl, Burke and monster back Mike McCashland switched jerseys. Burke wore No. 2, McCashland No. 33.

"Coach (Bob) Thornton asked me if I cared," Burke said of the jersey switch, which was intended to briefly confuse Miami's freshman quarterback Bernie Kosar and make it difficult for him to pick up blitzes.

"I had mixed emotions about it," said Burke. "But if the coaches thought it would help us win the game, I was willing to do it."

"I don't know if it bothered my confidence or not, but things weren't entirely the same. My concentration level was no different, it just seemed a little odd. Even though we don't wear numbers in practice, they're on the backs of our helmets,

and I'm used to seeing No. 2 at another position."

Burke may have lost a little of his identity that night in Miami, but if he did, it was only a temporary loss, soon forgotten in the disappointment of Nebraska's 31-30 defeat.

"After the Orange Bowl, I looked back on the season and saw a lot of bad habits, a lot of weaknesses in practice," Burke said.

Lack of confidence, however, wasn't one of them.

Early this season, Thornton noted Burke was playing "with a heck of a lot more confidence. Dave's made tremendous improvement between his junior and senior year," Thornton said.

Burke's increased confidence was attributable, in part, to a magazine article written by well-known physical fitness expert Jack LaLanne.

"He wrote about getting up at 5:30 every morning and working out. A lot of days, he didn't like to do it, but then he felt good because he had conquered himself," said Burke, who set out to do the same over the summer.

He ran four miles a day, four days a week, switching to sprints in early August, in order to increase his stamina. That, in turn, "helps tremendously with your concentration. A lot of times when you get tired, that's when you break down mentally," he said.

During his junior season, "I could see myself loafing, a little, at times, in practice,

Continued on page 61

Sugar Bowl 1985

Nebraska VS. LSU

And it won't be the first
time....

By Randy York



January 1, 1971, is frozen into the minds of Nebraska football fans forever. It was the night the Huskers won their first national championship, beating LSU, 17-12, in the Orange Bowl.

If there's a more demonstrative picture in NU football history than quarterback Jerry Tagge stretching his body over the goal line, Bob Devaney hasn't seen it.

That picture, which culminated a dramatic 67-yard fourth-quarter touchdown drive, demands a prominent place in Devaney's office.

It is a vivid reminder of the time he beat Charlie McClendon, one of the most familiar coaching names in LSU history.

Twelve years later, Nebraska played LSU again in the Orange Bowl and the Huskers needed a furious rally to hold back the Fighting Tigers, 21-20.

Nebraska trailed, 17-7, late in the third period of that game. Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne was impressed with Jerry Stovall, the LSU coach.



"I was impressed with the way he had his team prepared," Osborne said. "I became a student of his that night."

That 21-20 thriller capped the 1982 season. The next year, when LSU went from 8-3-1 to 4-7-0, Stovall was fired.

Ironically, Osborne admired Stovall even more during the season his team struggled.

"I thought Jerry handled himself in a healthy way for his family, his school and college football," he said. "It would have been easy for him to strike out against everybody. Coaches are judged by their won-lost records. But the way they behave, the image they project, is just as important to me."

With that, we introduce the new LSU Coach Nebraska will face January 1 in the Sugar Bowl... Bill Arnsparger.

The name should ring a bell with football fans everywhere.

If Osborne is the offensive genius of college football, he may be meeting what could be the rising defensive genius of college football.

Arnsparger, 58, was certainly considered a genius in the National Football League.

During his career at Miami, the Dolphins won four league championships, made four Super Bowl appearances and won two Super Bowl titles.

Head coach Don Shula and Bill Arnsparger worked well together. They were a team, a tandem, a tribute to mutual respect and long-lasting relationships.

Arnsparger's defensive teams were the backbone of the Dolphins' championships and Shula took care of his main man. He made Arnsparger assistant head coach and defensive coordinator. He made sure the club paid him \$125,000 a year.

Pro football devotees expected the mas-terminid of the most successful defense in NFL history to "laugh off" the offer of head coach at LSU.

And when the Dolphins made Arnsparger a counteroffer of a \$1 million, five-year contract, NFL insiders were convinced he would stay in Miami.

But Arnsparger made a paradoxical decision. He left Florida, the land of sunshine, and a guaranteed million bucks for an \$80,000-a-year job in Tiger Town — Baton Rouge, La.

The move surprised everyone — except LSU Athletic Director Bob Brodhead.

"Every coach wants to be a head coach," Brodhead said, "and I was not at all surprised when Bill agreed to come to LSU. It's true, the four-year contract we gave him has an \$80,000-a-year base. But there's more than that."

"The contract also has a \$70,000 supplemental guarantee. What that means is that the university will pay him the base and if he fails to make the additional guaranteed supplement of \$70,000 from radio and TV rights during any given year, the university will have to pay him the difference."

"Obviously," Brodhead said, "the contract LSU gave Bill is not equal to what he turned down when he left Miami to come here. But he wanted to be a head coach — to have his own program and to run his own show. He wanted that more than he wanted a guaranteed million dollars."

Arnsparger turned his back on the proverbial Michael Anthony visit. He turned his back on becoming "The Millionaire."

But in his first year as a college head coach, he has found fame greater than any fortune he left behind.

Arnsparger did not take a year or two to

re-establish the program. He took an LSU team that finished 0-6 in the Southeastern Conference in 1983 and turned it into a 4-1-1 team in the SEC in 1984.

The Tigers' surge to the Sugar Bowl was not easy. They needed an Alabama upset win over Auburn on December 1 to pull it off. If Auburn had won, LSU would have played Arkansas in the Liberty Bowl.

LSU faithful considered the yellow brick road to New Orleans an appropriate reward for a most unusual season.

It started with a 21-21 tie at Florida last September. At the time, no one knew how significant that game would be.

Florida went on to win the SEC championship, but was stripped of the opportunity to be host school in the Sugar Bowl. A committee of SEC presidents, athletic directors and faculty representatives voted not to allow a school on NCAA probation to represent the conference.

LSU would not have needed to come through the back door over Auburn as the replacement, if the Tigers had not been upset, 16-14, at Mississippi State on November 17.

LSU finished the season with an 8-2-1 record. The Tigers posted wins over Wichita State (47-7), Arizona (27-26), Southern Cal (23-3), Vanderbilt (34-27), Kentucky (36-10), Mississippi (32-29), Alabama (16-14) and Tulane (33-15). The wins over Southern Cal, Kentucky and Alabama all came on the road.

The most disappointing part of the season was allowing Notre Dame to rally for a 30-22 win in Baton Rouge on October 27 and the stumble at Mississippi State.

Still, prosperity was LSU's middle name in a season when no one knew what to expect.

The Sugar Bowl was merely the culmination of individual achievements.

Lance Smith, LSU's 6-foot-2, 263-pound senior offensive tackle, made both the Kodak and *Football News* All-America teams. He was one of 12 finalists for the Lombardi Award.

"I'm really proud that I was able to be named to these teams," Smith said. "I feel like I made some great strides this year and that I've proven myself."

"A lot of credit should go to Coach Arnsparger, the coaching staff and my teammates because they all were a big help in my gaining these honors," added Smith. "I just hope I can help the team win the bowl game and go on and have a successful career in pro ball."

Arnsparger said Smith "is deserving of any award or team he's selected for. He's had an outstanding season for us and has been the man we built around in our line. He's worked hard from the start and showed us the dedication necessary to continually improve. I'm proud and happy for him."

Arnsparger is proud and happy for his



Bill Arnsparger left a highly paid position as defensive coordinator and assistant head coach of the NFL Miami Dolphins to run his own show at LSU. (Below):

First team All-American running back Dalton Hilliard will get a chance to show what he can do against the toughest defense he's faced all year.

(Opposite Page): First team All-American offensive tackle Lance Smith — the LSU offensive line was built around him. He and teammates will give quarterback Wickersham all the protection they can muster.



other players, too. And even though he carved his coaching reputation on defense, the Tigers flourished offensively in Arnsparger's first year at the helm.

Eric Martin, LSU's 6-1, 195-pound senior All-American and All-Conference split end, became the SEC's career receiving yardage leader in the Tigers' season-ending 33-15 win over Tulane.

Martin ended his regular season LSU career with 2,625 receiving yards, overtaking Florida's Carlos Alvarez (2,563 from 1969-71) and Auburn's Terry Beasley (2,507 from 1969-71) in the process.

Martin has caught passes in 34 consecutive games and has 11 100-yard receiving games to his credit.

Remarkably, Martin did not come to LSU as a receiver. He was a blue-chip running back from Van Vleck, Texas. After rushing for 290 yards on a 3-7-1 team as a freshman, he switched to split end.

Even though that was hardly a spectacular performance, Martin's move to receiver was precipitated even more by the recruitment the next year of Dalton Hilliard and Garry James.

Nebraska already knows about those two backs. The Black Shirts had their share of trouble with the freshman running back duo in the 1983 Orange Bowl.

The two now start together in the backfield as juniors. Hilliard, 5-8 and 187, is listed as the running back. James, 5-10 and 202, is listed as the tailback.

Statistically, Hilliard is the better of the two. He is already LSU's No. 2 career rusher. His 2,916 yards on 613 attempts trails only All-American Charles Alexander, who gained 4,035 yards on 855 attempts.

Hilliard ended the 1984 regular season with the school's second best single-season rushing total — 1,268 yards. He was the first LSU back since Alexander in 1978 to have a 1,000-yard season.

Nebraska coaches knew Hilliard was a small package of dynamite as a freshman when he rushed for 182 yards against Florida State.

This year, he has been more consistent and more impressive. He had 166 yards against Wichita State, 164 against Kentucky, 152 against Vanderbilt, 145 against Arizona, 133 against Tulane and 118 against Notre Dame.

In that Notre Dame game, Hilliard broke a 66-yard run. He caught a 60-yard pass against Ole Miss.

What makes Hilliard so explosive?

"I think it's his eyes," offered LSU Recruiting Coordinator Sam Nader. "He has to have great eyes. He can see the tacklers and his blockers. And he has the quickest feet you ever saw."

"But I also believe he has the best running instincts I've ever seen in anybody," Nader said. "He's such a smart runner, knowing just when to cut back or accelerate. And his eyes help in this."

Hilliard does not have James' blinding speed. But he works hard to be what he is. "He wants to be good. He works to accomplish exactly what you ask him to do," Arnsperger said. "He's always working to get better."

LSU Offensive Coordinator Ed Zaunbrecher said Hilliard is "the type of guy who goes through a whole practice and never says a word."

"He just has great natural ability," added Zaunbrecher. "That's something you can't coach. He wants to understand how the plays are being blocked so that he knows the initial place to go, and after that, his instincts take over."

Hilliard's 115.3-yard per game average ranked him among the nation's top seven rushers. His 14 touchdowns also make him LSU's leading scorer.

James' statistics are less sensational. After rushing for 710 yards as a freshman and 478 as a sophomore, he rushed for 503 as a junior. He also caught 22 passes for 183 yards (Hilliard caught 24 for 204).

Before Arnsperger arrived, LSU fans wondered if one football was enough for the Dalton-James Gang. Arnsperger installed a new multiple offense and put the two in the same backfield.

It has worked well. Opponents are wary of Hilliard's greater productivity, but they still have to respect James' :04.28 speed in the 40.

"The most important thing I've learned at LSU is dealing with the pressure," James said. "I've had to deal with bad press...people coming up to me and saying, 'You're not a starter.'"

Under Arnsperger, James didn't have to deal with that anymore.

"With two runners like Dalton and Garry, I removed the term fullback from our dictionary," Arnsperger said.

Hilliard became the running back, lining up behind the quarterback. James is the tailback, but it's a bit of a misnomer because he can "line up anywhere," Arnsperger said.

Smith and Martin may be the All-Americans and Hilliard and James may demand the spotlight. But any discussion about LSU's offense would be folly without equal mention for quarterback Jeff Wickersham.

Only a junior, he has already rewritten the LSU passing record book.

In the season finale against Tulane, he completed 18 of 26 passes for 237 yards and two touchdowns. That helped him overtake Alan Risher as LSU's career passing leader.

Risher should be a familiar name to Nebraska fans. He was the quarterback who riddled NU's defense in the '83 Orange Bowl and finished his career with 4,585 yards passing.

Wickersham, a native of Merritt Island, Fla., now has 4,776 career yards passing.

If you want a barometer to measure

those statistics, consider that LSU All-American Bert Jones only passed for 3,225 yards in his LSU career. Jones was the quarterback Tagge outdueled in the '71 Orange Bowl.

With that avalanche of offense, you wonder where the LSU defense fits in.

Arnsperger's reputation, after all, is on defense, isn't it?

And that was embellished in the fourth game of the year when LSU shut down Southern Cal, 23-3, in the Los Angeles Coliseum.

One headline captured the essence of the ambush: "The Lunch Bunch Has Gone Lean."

Arnsperger's defense cleaned the future Rose Bowl representative with a defense that trimmed its waistline.

"The first time we got together I just thought too many of our players looked fat," Arnsperger said. "And that was confirmed by the tests we did."

Arnsperger set demanding body-fat ratios and almost every player on the team had to meet new requirements just to practice.

Arnsperger also gave his coaching staff ultimate control. He leaves the calls on the field to secondary Coach Mike Archer, who communicates with defensive coordinator John Symank in the press box.

"Here's a man who's the greatest defensive coach in the world and he's leaving it to us," said Archer, who Arnsperger hired away from the University of Miami, the team that upset Nebraska in the Orange Bowl last year.

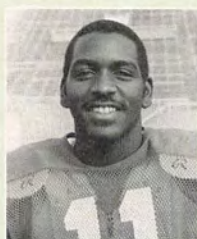
Even though the LSU defense has not been spectacular, it has been consistent. Shawn Burks, a 6-2, 220-pound junior linebacker, leads the team in tackles with 108, 89 of which have been solos.

Free safety Liffort Hobley finished the regular season with 80 tackles. Defensive end Karl Wilson had 77, linebacker Michael Brooks 75, linebacker Ricky Chatman 70, strong safety Jeffery Dale 64 and linebacker Gregg Dubroc 62.

If that sounds like an unusual number of linebackers, it's only because under Arnsperger, the labels are different.

He's just hoping the success is the same. ♦





Beginning top left to right: split end Lorenzo Hicks; running back Jon Kelley, offensive guard Kevin Lightner; cornerback John Custard; wingback Dana Brinson; defensive end Steve Stanard. Down: offensive guard Andy Keeler; cornerback James Worden; tight end Willie Griffin. Right to left: tight end Rob Phenicie; defensive tackle Neil Smith. Left top of V, down: quarterback Wendell Wooten; linebacker Jim Gruenewald; safety Franklin Barber; running back Jeff Wheeler; running back Keith Jones; middle guard Lawrence Pete; punter John Kroeker.

Husker Junior Varsity

Ends '84 Season with Near Perfect Record

By Mike Babcock

In the closing seconds of the Nebraska football team's 62-14 victory over Kansas State, Wendell Wooten snapped the chinstrap on his helmet. As he did so, he glanced at the scoreboard clock and thought: "Time's running out."

The freshman quarterback from La Marque, Texas, hoped Nebraska head Coach Tom Osborne would see him and get the message. Wooten wanted in the game.

As if his wanting to go in made it happen, Wooten got his wish. "Wendell, come here," Osborne said.

He didn't have to call twice.

Not only did Osborne send Wooten into the game, but he also "called three options in a row," said Wooten, who kept on each one, gaining 12 yards in his varsity debut.

"It felt great," Wooten said.

For the most part, that phrase aptly described Wooten's freshman experience at Nebraska. The only scholarship quarterback in the Cornhuskers' recruiting class, Wooten led Nebraska's junior varsity to a 4-1 season.

He ran for 167 yards, passed for 198 yards and scored six touchdowns, including one on a 74-yard run in the final game of the jayvee season, a 41-0 victory over the William Jewell College junior varsity.

Wooten proved he could make things happen. In addition, "Wendell's very coachable," said freshman quarterbacks Coach Mark Mauer.

Wooten's passing statistics were less than impressive. He completed 16 of 47

and threw five interceptions.

Jim Toner, a walkon from Grand Island, had better numbers, completing 11 of 24 for 146 yards and two touchdowns. Toner was intercepted only once.

But Wooten made significant progress. According to Mauer, the 6-2, 202-pound athlete just needs to work on the mechanics of throwing.

Wooten has a strong arm.

"I've matured as a passer," said Wooten, an option quarterback in high school who drew considerable recruiting attention as a defensive back.

"When I got here, I thought I had such a strong arm I could throw the ball anywhere. Now, if a guy's open, I can hit him, but I don't think I can stick the ball in any place because the defensive backs have so much speed.

"The entire defense is a lot quicker than in high school."

Unlike some quarterbacks, Wooten hasn't had too much difficulty picking up Nebraska's audible system. In high school, "we had check calls and we had to read the secondary," he said.

Lorenzo Hicks, a freshman split end and Wooten's roommate, made his Cornhusker varsity debut against Minnesota. It lasted only 12 seconds, but "they were the biggest 12 seconds of the entire season," Hicks said.

A scholarship recruit from Southeast High School in Kansas City, Mo., with :04.69 speed in the 40-yard dash, electronically timed, Hicks led the junior varsity in receiving, catching seven passes for 91

yards.

"It was fun, but I would have liked to catch more passes," he said.

Instead, Hicks spent much of his time learning how to block. "I was weak on my blocking, but I did the best I could," said Hicks. "Here they expect you to be downfield, blocking. In high school, you never worried about it.

"I think I've improved a lot."

Wooten and Hicks were among only nine scholarship freshmen who suited up for the final junior varsity game of the season. Walkons predominated on this year's jayvee squad.

Nebraska's 1984 recruiting class included 17 scholarship athletes, but eight of them were elsewhere through much of the junior varsity season.

Three were promoted to the varsity, two of them, defensive back Brian Washington and split end Jason Gamble, at the beginning of fall practice.

Gamble counted against the 1984 scholarship total, even though he made his commitment to Nebraska the previous winter. He didn't enroll until second semester, when a scholarship opened.

Jones was promoted to the varsity as support at I-back after Jeff Smith sprained an ankle against UCLA, and he stayed with the varsity because Paul Miles suffered a dislocated shoulder in the Syracuse game, making every varsity road trip.

The former Omaha Central Super-Starter rushed for 240 yards and scored four touchdowns in two junior varsity games, including a 15-carry, 136-yard effort in a

38-9, opening-game victory over Ellsworth Junior College.

Jones' junior varsity experience was brief, but it was long enough to convince freshman Coach Dan Young that "it's a potential touchdown every time Keith gets his hands on the ball."

Freshman linebacker Randall Jobman, an eight-man player at Garden County High School in Oshkosh, Ne., lost a thumb in a July 1 calf-roping accident and sat out the fall.

Four scholarship freshmen are likely to

tight end," said Young "That made everybody play more aggressive.

"He demonstrates what to do."

Brinson showed big-play potential in the short time he played, catching two passes for 22 yards and running with the ball four times for a net gain of 63 yards. He scored a touchdown on a 26-yard run in the season-opener.

Besides Wooten and Hicks, the only other scholarship freshmen who played in the final game of the junior varsity season were tight end Willie Griffin, guard Andy

played well," he said.

Among the most notable were defensive backs John Custard, Franklin Barber and Kevin Hinton, fullback Don Lilly and I-back Jeff Wheeler, who finished as the team's leading rusher.

Wheeler, a 5-11, 180-pounder from Urbandale, Iowa, gained 367 yards on 55 attempts and scored three touchdowns.

Custard, 5-10, 170, walked on from Bellevue East High and played well enough to be among those invited to continue practicing with the varsity after the

Jones' junior varsity experience was brief, but it was long enough to convince freshman Coach Dan Young that "it's a potential touchdown every time Keith gets his hands on the ball."

be granted additional seasons of eligibility from the Big Eight Conference under hardship rulings.

Mark Mendel, a lineman from Plymouth, Minn., was sidelined by a knee injury before the season began.

Running back Tyreese Knox spent the early part of the fall recovering from a leg stress fracture which carried over from his very successful high school career in Daly City, Calif., where he scored 78 touchdowns and broke the state's prep record for career rushing yards, gaining 5,214.

As a senior, Knox rushed for 1,994 yards and scored 30 touchdowns, despite missing two games.

Once his leg was completely healed, Knox ran on the varsity scout squad, and in the second varsity redshirt-freshman scrimmage, he broke a 33-yard touchdown run in a losing freshman effort.

Dana Brinson, a wingback from Valdosta, Ga., and Todd Millikan, a linebacker from Shenandoah, Iowa, both started junior varsity games before being sidelined with injuries.

Millikan had already established his leadership qualities by the time he was injured. "Todd's not real talkative, but he gives us leadership by his determination on the field," Young said after the junior varsity opener.

That was illustrated during a pre-season scrimmage in which "we were playing just so-so on defense until Todd put a hit on a

Keeler and split end-punter John Kroeker on offense.

Kroeker, a multi-talented athlete from Henderson, Ne., set an NU freshman punting record by averaging 40.5-yards per punt on his 24 punts.

The scholarship freshman defenders included middle guard Lawrence Pete, tackle Neil Smith, end Steve Stanard and defensive back Jamie Worden.

Pete, a 6-3, 272-pounder from Wichita, Kan., and Smith, a 6-6, 224-pounder from New Orleans, had a good-natured, season-long competition to see who could make the most tackles.

Each finished with a team-high 36, with Pete being credited with a team-high 23 unassisted stops.

They were Mr. Inside and Mr. Outside of the junior varsity defense.

Pete, who can bench press more than 450 pounds and lift nearly 900 pounds on the hip sled, used his strength to keep teams from attacking the middle. Smith had the speed to chase down runners.

Pete was allowed to suit up for every varsity home game and has set his sights high. "I don't plan to redshirt. At least, that's not my intention right now," he said.

The rest of the jayvee roster was comprised of walkons and second-year players, some of whom, like I-back Jon Kelley, also had scholarships.

According to Young, walkons were the "backbone" of this year's junior varsity. "A lot of walkons came through and

jayvee season.

He was the only freshman walkon to receive such an invitation.

The distinction between scholarship players and walkons isn't made on the field. "I look at us as teammates," said Hicks.

"The scholarship guys know how important the walkons are," Wooten added. "We play together; we sweat and hurt together.

"We had a pretty good team feeling."

They also had a pretty good team. "Without a lapse against Waldorf, we could easily have been undefeated," said Young, who likely won't be at Nebraska next season.

Under NCAA rules, graduate assistant coaches are limited to two seasons, unless they're close to completing a degree. Then, they can request and be granted a third season.

Young says he hasn't decided whether to request the additional season. He'll know more in the spring.

"It all depends on what opens up," Young said. "Maybe I'll have an opportunity to get on at some other college. This has been a great experience for me.

"It was an opportunity to coach a lot of really fine players and be part of one of the best coaching staffs in college football."

Every healthy scholarship freshman was asked to continue practicing with the varsity after the jayvee season, an opportunity "that'll certainly help them going into spring football," Osborne said.

NEBRASKA JUNIOR VARSITY 38 ELLSWORTH COMM COLLEGE 9

The season began with a bang.

More specifically, it started with a 92-yard kickoff return by Keith Jones.

That led to Jon Kelley's two-yard touchdown run, just 18 seconds into the Nebraska junior varsity football team's 38-9 victory over Ellsworth Community College at Memorial Stadium.

"I told the defense before the game that our offense needed some time," Cornhusker freshman Coach Dan Young said. Everyone figured he meant more than 18 seconds.

What Young really did mean, of course, was that the offense would need time to develop during the early part of the season. Even though the jayvee offense rushed for 252 yards against Ellsworth, it hampered itself with mistakes.

The Huskers lost three of five fumbles and had two passes intercepted. "Our offense needs some consistency," said Young, who coordinated the defense.

The junior varsity defense gave the offense plenty of breathing room in the opener, stopping Ellsworth for a minus-14 rushing yards and intercepting six Panther passes.

John Custard and Franklin Barber intercepted two a piece; John Marco and Brad Buller each intercepted one, with Buller returning his 41 yards for Nebraska's final touchdown.

While the young Cornhusker defense shut down Ellsworth's running attack, Jones paced Nebraska's ground game.

He scored the Huskers' second touchdown on a 14-yard run, and when Nebraska appeared to be letting up after it had built a 24-9 lead, Jones broke loose on a 90-yard touchdown run early in the fourth quarter.

"The second half, we were just trading the ball back and forth until he went 90 yards," Young said. "The free safety had a great angle but he couldn't catch Keith. He just thoroughly misjudged Keith's speed."

"I know how they felt. That's happened to us in scrimmages. He's the kind of guy who can turn things around for you. Keith's not too big, but he's quick and once he gets out in the open, it seems like he gets faster."

During pre-season testing, Jones was timed at :04.50, electronic, in the 40-yard dash, the second fastest 40 in Nebraska football history.

Freshman wingback Dana Brinson in the opener against Ellsworth Junior College. Brinson will probably get a hardship year.

Wingback Dana Brinson scored the Cornhuskers' other touchdown on a 26-yard run with 6:29 remaining in the second quarter.

Jim Gruenewald, a walkon linebacker from Rising City, Ne., scored the remainder of the jayvees' points, kicking a 46-yard field goal and five consecutive extra points.

Jones accounted for most of Nebraska's rushing yardage, gaining 136 yards on 15 attempts. Jeff Wheeler carried eight times for 42 yards.

Young was pleased with his rushing defense, spearheaded by tackle Neil Smith, middle guard Lawrence Pete and linebacker Todd Millikan.

GAME BY GAME STATISTICS

Nebraska JV 38, Ellsworth CC 9

Ellsworth	0	7	2	0	—	9
Nebraska JV	14	10	0	14	—	38

N — Kelley 2 run (Gruenewald kick)
N — Jones 14 run (Gruenewald kick)
N — Brinson 26 run (Gruenewald kick)
E — Ringer 65 pass from Arneson (Cox kick)
N — Gruenewald 46 field goal
E — Punt blocked for safety
N — Jones 90 run (Gruenewald kick)
N — Buller 41 interception return (Gruenewald kick)

	ECC	NJV
First downs	10	14
Rushes-yards	23-(-14)	60-252
Passing yards	251	37
Passes	18-43-6	5-12-2
Return yards	26	122
Punts-avg.	8-37.4	6-37.3
Fumbles-lost	3-0	5-3
Penalties-yards	8-60	6-45





NEBRASKA JUNIOR VARSITY 27 **IOWA STATE JR VARSITY 10**

For the second game in a row, the opposition couldn't keep up with Keith Jones, Nebraska's freshman I-back.

Less than five minutes in the Husker junior varsity's 27-10 victory over the Iowa State jayvees at Cyclone Stadium in Ames, Iowa, Jones raced 60 yards for a touchdown.

Before the afternoon was over, he'd scored another touchdown and rushed for 104 yards on 16 carries in what turned out to be his final jayvee game.

"Keith's a very explosive runner. He's a game-breaker," Cornhusker freshman Coach Dan Young said after his team's second victory over the season.

"Every time Keith touches the ball, he's capable of going all the way. He's very elusive. It's hard to get a good shot at him because he has such quick feet," said Young.

Even though the Nebraska offense showed improvement from a mistake-plagued opener, it still lost three fumbles and had one pass intercepted.

Still, "I felt the offense played well," Young said. "It sustained drives and made very few mistakes."

Nebraska freshman quarterback Wendell Wooten kept the Iowa State jayvees

from keying only on Jones by completing four of nine passes for 69 yards and scoring the Huskers' other two touchdowns, on runs of one and seven yards.

Split end Lorenzo Hicks and tight end Willie Griffin each caught two passes.

The Cornhusker defense again forced its opponent to take to the airways, limiting the Cyclone jayvees to 37 rushing yards on 35 attempts.

For Nebraska, defensive tackle Neil Smith made 10 tackles and middle guard Lawrence Pete was credited with nine. Defensive end Steve Stanard finished with six tackles, two for losses.

The Huskers limited Iowa State to 103 yards of total offense in the second half, stopping drives which reached the Nebraska six- and 12-yard lines.

Iowa State attempted 35 passes, completing 20 for 231 yards and its lone touchdown, which cut Nebraska's advantage to 13-10 with less than five minutes remaining in the first half.

But the Huskers responded with a touchdown drive, directed by Wooten, to take control of the game.

Nebraska rolled to 256 yards on the ground, behind a line anchored by Andy Keeler, a freshman, and Keven Lightner, a redshirt freshman.

Nebraska freshmen Mark Blazek (top) joins Jim Gruenewald (middle) and James Worden for the tackle.

Nebraska JV 27, Iowa State JV 10

Nebraska JV	7	12	8	0	— 27
Iowa State JV	0	10	0	0	— 10

N — Jones 60 run (Gruenewald kick)
 IS — Kimberly 43 field goal
 N — Wooten 1 run (kick failed)
 IS — Suffren 34 pass from Crimmins (Kimberly kick)
 N — Wooten 7 run (pass failed)
 N — Jones 2 run (Jones run)

	NU	ISU
First downs	19	13
Rushes-yards	50-256	35-37
Passing yards	84	231
Passes	6-15-1	20-35-0
Return yards	22	19
Punts-avg.	4-36.3	8-28.9
Fumbles-lost	4-3	4-1
Penalties-yards	4-30	7-52

NEBRASKA JUNIOR VARSITY 31 **COFFEYVILLE JR COLLEGE 26**

It's never over 'til it's over.

Consider the Nebraska junior varsity's 24-10 victory over top-ranked Coffeyville Junior College before 3,500 fans in Coffeyville, Kan.

The Cornhuskers trailed the Red Ravens by 24-9 and stood fourth-and-long with little more than 10 minutes remaining when a heavy rain began to fall. That also was when the NU miracle began.

The Nebraska jayvees had no choice but to go for broke. I-back Jeff Wheeler, the up-back on the punting team, took the snap, broke a tackle and gained enough yardage for the first down.

Three plays later, Husker I-back Jon Kelley skirted his right end for 28 yards and a touchdown. Jim Gruenewald, who kicked a 28-yard field goal in the first half, added the extra-point kick to pull Nebraska within striking distance at 24-17.

"Jon really ran well," said Husker freshman Coach Dan Young. "I'd never seen anything like it. He knew we had to have it, and he could smell the goal line. The goal line had that sweet smell, and Kelley was smelling it."

Nebraska's defense smelled the same thing, getting the ball back for the offense at Coffeyville's 32-yard line.

Husker freshman defensive end Steve Stanard sacked Red Raven quarterback



Nebraska's freshman quarterback Wendell Wooten sets sail against the William Jewell College Junior Varsity.

Mark McCray for an eight-yard loss on third down, and Nebraska's pressure, combined with a wet ball and a bad snap from center, prevented Coffeyville from getting off a punt on fourth down.

Two plays after the Husker jayvees took over at the 32, fullback Don Lilly rambled up the middle for 30 yards and a touchdown. Gruenewald's extra-point kick tied the game with 6:29 left.

Nebraska got the ball again at the 50-yard line, two minutes later.

This time it was quarterback Wendell Wooten who turned in the big play. On a fourth-and-six from the Red Raven 34-yard line, Wooten rolled out on an option and didn't stop until he had reached the one.

He covered that yard on the next play. Gruenewald's extra-point kick made the score 31-24. Coffeyville's final points came on an intentional safety.

"It was one of those times when you come around the end, and you know it's

there," Wooten said of his crucial, 33-yard run. "I was just going to try to make the first down, and absolutely nobody was there.

"I just kept running."

Wooten also scored the game's first touchdown on a nine-yard run. Wheeler set it up with a 63-yard run.

"It's pretty hard to pick any heroes tonight. There were just so many in a game like this," Young said afterward.

Nebraska punter John Kroeker was among them. He was responsible for the safety.

The Huskers faced a fourth down from their own five-yard line with seven seconds remaining in the game, and Kroeker was told to kill as much of the time as he could. He killed it all.

"That was the biggest run I ever made," said Kroeker.

Nebraska JV 31, Coffeyville JC 26

Nebraska JV 7 3 0 21 — 31
Coffeyville JC 0 14 10 2 — 26

N — Wooten 9 run (Gruenewald kick)
C — Wells 1 run (McCray kick)
N — Gruenewald 28 field goal

C — Wells 1 run (McCray kick)
C — Bell 19 pass from McCray (McCray kick)
C — McCray 41 field goal
N — Kelley 28 run (Gruenewald kick)
N — Lilly 30 run (Gruenewald kick)
N — Wooten 1 run (Gruenewald kick)
C — Safety, Kroeker runs out of end zone

	NU	CJC
First downs	18	15
Rushes-yards	58-292	51-139
Passing yards	52	89
Passes	4-16-1	9-19-3
Return yards	16	18
Punts-avg.	5-45.0	5-36.0
Fumbles-lost	3-1	1-0
Penalties-yards	11-75	6-40

WALDORF JUNIOR COLLEGE 23 NEBRASKA JUNIOR VARSITY 21

All good things must come to an end.

So it was with the Nebraska junior varsity's 15-year, 37-game home winning streak. Waldorf Junior College ended it 23-21 on a prayer of a fourth-down pass, which covered one yard.

Only 59 seconds remained when Wal-

Continued on page 56

There they are — eight players from Lincoln with their eyes on the future....

Lincoln Born — Husker Football Bred

When he was a grade-school student, growing up in Lincoln, Bill Weber earned his bleacher seat in the end zone by selling candy and tickets through the Midget football program.

He was six years old when he saw his first game. "My dad took me when they had that heavy grass field," he recalled. "All I remember was the weather was bad and we lost to Lynn Dickey and Kansas State."

During his grade school days, "it took awhile to get over it when Nebraska lost," said Weber, a graduate of Lincoln Southeast High School.

"I was like every little kid in Lincoln. I thought Nebraska was invincible. I expected an undefeated season every year. It takes awhile before you finally figure out how hard that is to do."

Weber, a three-year starter and three-time Academic All-Big Eight selection, is one of three starters from Lincoln on the 1984 Cornhuskers.

He is precise, reliable and as businesslike off the football field as he is on it.

Five mornings a week, he works in the corporate trust department of a Lincoln bank, writing outlines for bond indentures.

He begins each day in a three-piece suit and finishes it in football gear.

The situation may be unique. "To our knowledge, it hasn't been done before," said Weber, who's finishing the final five

The Lincoln boys, from left to right: Bill Weber; Craig Sundberg; Mike McCashland; Tom Morrow; Danny Noonan; Steve Forch; Mark Cooper; Scott Tucker.

hours towards a finance degree this semester.

Under NCAA rules, he had to drop his scholarship in order to take the job, which serves as an internship worth one hour of credit. Now, he pays his own tuition, and if he eats at the training table, he pays for that, too.

"I'm like a walkon," Weber said. "I've traded my scholarship for a working wage. It's fairly equal and I get the work experience, besides."

Where else but Nebraska would the 1980 Nebraska State High School Athlete of the Year give up his scholarship in his final year?

Bill Weber was willing to sacrifice. He grew up in that huge shadow cast by Memorial Stadium.

So did starting monster back Mike McCashland, a Lincoln East High School graduate whose father, Dick, was an NU football captain in 1958.

Since he was a sixth-grader, Mike had a seat and rarely missed a game. "I always had a ticket," he said. "But I'm sure if my parents hadn't gotten me one, I'd have



**Weber, making the sack
against Missouri
quarterback Seitz (8)
during the past season.**

been over that fence like a lot of my friends."

In those days, sneaking into Nebraska football games was an act of faith as much as a profile in courage.

"Lincoln's a football city," McCashland said. "When you're young and live in Lincoln, you can't get enough football. This whole city focuses in on football."

Even though McCashland has developed more balance in his life, he thinks football is a positive charge. "There's nothing wrong with a kid looking up to a football player," he said. "You represent a lot of people. And you've got to fly straight."

Tom Morrow, the fifth-year senior offensive right tackle from Pius X High School, is the third full-time starter from Lincoln for the Cornhuskers.

When he was a kid, Morrow considered himself lucky. His parents had season tickets and his mother wasn't much of a fan. He usually got the seat next to his dad.

Morrow was six years old when he saw his first Nebraska football game. "Mike Green was the I-back," he recalled. "I've been going to the games ever since. My mom wasn't that interested. She liked the band and the colors. She didn't like the rain, the snow, the cold or the heat."

Since his junior high school years, "I've known every player on the team," Morrow said. "I studied the program."

For Nebraska's first five games of the season, there was another Lincoln native in the starting lineup — Craig Sundberg, the quarterback who grew up with Weber. The two were teammates in Midget football and teammates at Southeast. They signed their national letters of intent with Nebraska the same day.

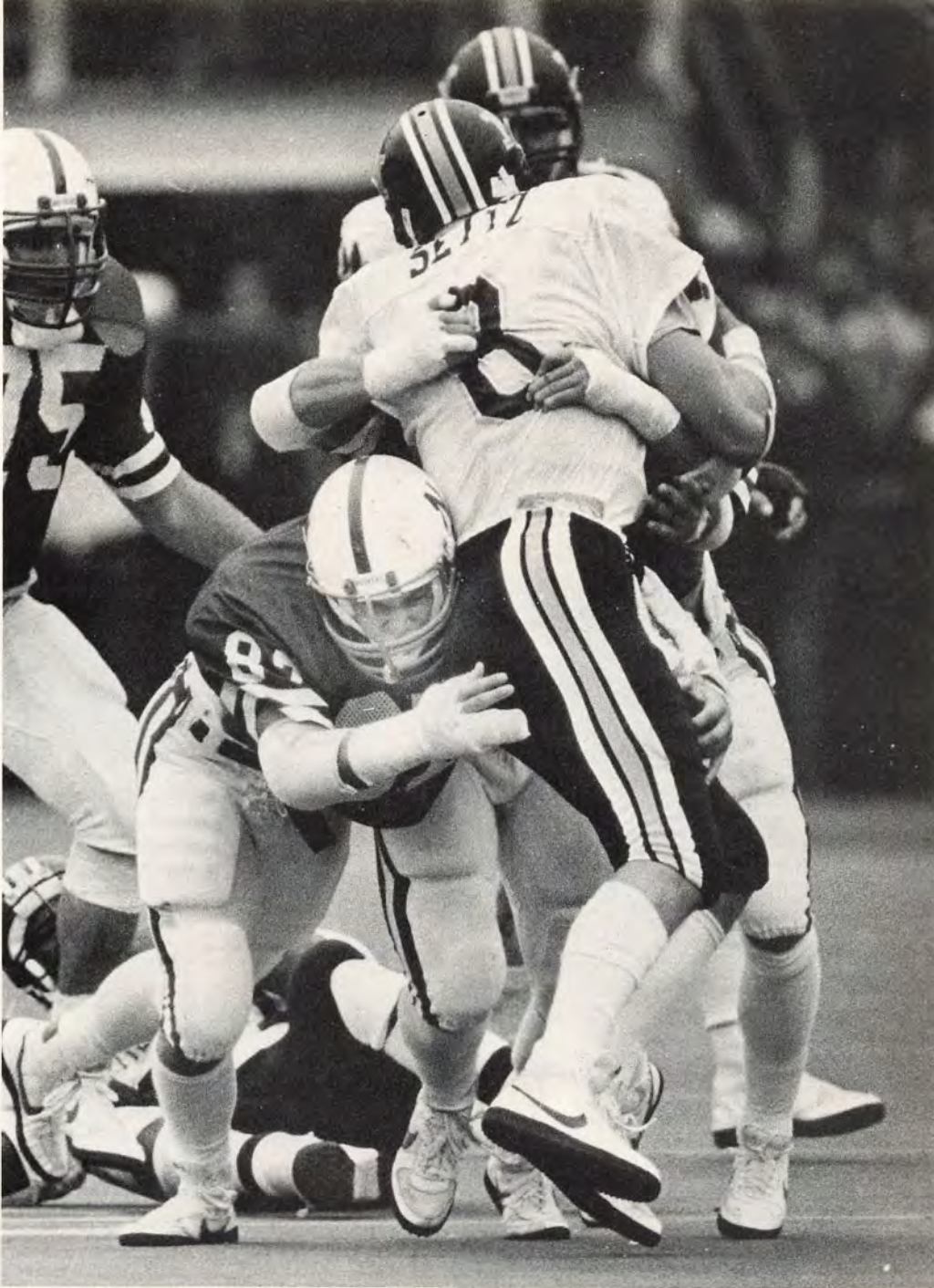
Like Weber, McCashland and Morrow, Sundberg was born to be a Husker. He used to sell Cokes in Memorial Stadium. He has attended Nebraska home games since the fourth grade.

For three years, he was a top ticket-seller in Midget football and never missed a Husker home game. As a seventh and eighth-grader, Sundberg made good money selling Cokes inside the stadium.

"On a hot day, you could make \$30, \$40 or \$50," he recalled. "When it wasn't hot, I'd slough off after halftime and watch the game."

Although Sundberg, Weber, McCashland and Morrow are the only Lincoln natives who have started for the high-powered Cornhuskers this season, they are not the only key contributors from the Capital City.

Four other Lincoln prep graduates are prime-time or close to prime-time players.



They include:

— Danny Noonan, a second-team sophomore defensive tackle from Lincoln Northeast. He has alternated almost equally with starter Chris Spachman all season.

— Scott Tucker, a junior defensive end from Lincoln Northeast. He has played behind Scott Strasburger and Gregg Reeves, but will letter.

— Steve Forch, a sophomore linebacker from Lincoln East. Though listed behind Marc Munford and Chad Daffer on the depth chart, he has made the Husker travel team all season and is a key performer on what could be the best specialty teams in the country.

— Mark Cooper, a sophomore center from Lincoln East. Like Tucker and

Forch, he is a third-team player behind Mark Traynowicz and Bill Lewis. Cooper also travels and is the Huskers' first-team deep snapper.

There they are, eight players from Lincoln — three starters, two ultra-valuable backups and three third-teamers with their eyes on the future.

The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce is proud of all of them.

Weber, though, is the one who has carved the greatest combination reputation as a scholar-athlete.

In 1980, he was Nebraska's No. 1 in-state recruit, garnering that honor over such other standouts as Bret Clark of Nebraska City, Harry Grimminger of Grand Island, Rob Stuckey of Lexington and Mark Traynowicz of Bellevue West.

Weber ranked 79th in his graduating class of 534. Twice, he was a Super State selection in football. He was also All-City in baseball and All-City in basketball. During his prep career, he competed in 10 state championship contests.

His consistency and overall excellence helped him edge Clark, Traynowicz and Aurora's Kevin Penner for the prestigious Athlete of the Year honor in *The Lincoln Journal-Star*.

His performance at Nebraska has done nothing but embellish his reputation.

He moved immediately into the spotlight, starting his first game for the Huskers as a sophomore at Auburn. It was the first time his performance truly matched

his potential. He played with an abandon reminiscent of ex-Husker All-American George Andrews.

Even though he was an aggressive high school athlete, Weber learned how much more aggressiveness was required in college football.

"Looking back, I could have been a lot more aggressive in high school," he said. "I never realized how important intensity is. At this level, it's the name of the game. If you don't give everything you have on every play, you're just wasting a whole year of hard work."

That reality hit Weber when he was a freshman, playing in his first "Toilet Bowl" against the NU redshirts.

"It was obvious the first play," he recalled. "They ran a pitch play and I was totally beat, on quickness and intensity. I knew then that things were going to have to change."

They have. Weber grew up and kept his starting position through hard work, determination and the best grasp of the defense on the team.

Sophomore linebacker Marc Munford, Nebraska's season tackle leader, gave Weber that proverbial pat on the back the week of the Oklahoma game.

"Bill Weber's the smartest guy we have out there," Munford said. "He knows the defense better than anyone on the Black Shirts."

That was most apparent in Nebraska wins this season at UCLA and at Iowa State, a pair of teams with sophisticated passing attacks.

In a 42-3 win at UCLA, Weber was credited with a team-high nine tackles, six of them unassisted. He had one quarterback sack, broke up two passes and deflected a punt.

From his point of view, those statistics were not extraordinary.

"With the plays UCLA ran, those are the things I should have done," he said. "It wasn't some great thing."

The Big Eight felt otherwise. He was named the conference's Big Eight Player of the Week.

To Weber, his success in that game was merely evidence that Nebraska's system works. "I didn't play over my head," he said. "It wasn't like I had a shot of adrenaline. If you learn your techniques and do 'em right, successful things are supposed to happen."

Although Weber is quiet and unassuming, he is not without a sense of humor.

He can't help but remember when he was a semi-scared sophomore and let the crowd at Penn State intimidate him to a degree.

He remembers Nittany Lion fans shouting "This isn't New Mexico State" at the Huskers one week after they had scored a 68-0 win.

UCLA fans tried a similar psychological ploy, shouting "This isn't Minnesota" during Nebraska's warmups in the Rose Bowl.

The difference between a scared sophomore and a confident senior is the way he absorbs such psychological cues.

Photographer Randy Hampton got the four starters from Lincoln together between classes, from top left to right: Craig Sundberg; Mike McCashland; Bill Weber, and Tom Morrow.



When UCLA fans shouted, "this isn't Minnesota," the first thing that came to Weber's mind was: 'And we aren't Long Beach State.'"

Weber was Nebraska's nominee for Big Eight Defensive Player of the Week for his performance in the Iowa State game, too.

You might say there is no such thing as a turning point in a 44-0 game. But Weber turned that game around with 7:30 left in the third quarter and Nebraska clinging dearly to a 10-0 lead.

Fifty-eight seconds after Scott Livingston boomed a 45-yard punt into a 30-mile-an-hour wind, Weber pirated a pass and returned it 25 yards to the Iowa State six-yard line.

Doug DuBose scored on the next play and the nail-biter started to turn into a rout.

"Iowa State still had the wind at their backs," Weber said. "I was worried that one play could get 'em back in the ball game."

Unfortunately, for the Cyclones, one play just as easily took them out of the game.

Here's how an Academic All-American's mind works on that play. Noticing that Iowa State sent a man in motion, "that's a good indication that he'll try a crossing pattern," Weber said.

"I saw the receiver out of the corner of my eye. I knew the quarterback had no idea where I was. So I just kind of sat there and waited till he threw. He hadn't seen me. He threw it right to me."

As usual, Weber gave the system more credit than he gave himself. But the system didn't make those team-leading five solo tackles against Iowa State. He did.

Still, Weber's reputation as a student of the game is well-founded. "Having Bill Weber on the field is like having another coach on the field," offered George Darlington, NU's defensive end coach.

"Basically, you tell him something once and he knows exactly what you're saying," Darlington said of Weber, who remembers when Nebraska won its first national championship "and it brought football to the attention of the whole state."

McCashland also remembers that magic moment.

"I'd show up every Saturday and see all the people go crazy," he recalled. "When we beat Oklahoma in Lincoln, I'd run out on the field like everybody else. I really didn't think about it. But I idolized those Nebraska players."

Mike, obviously, never got the chance to idolize his father, the former NU captain, as a football player. But he did see his father play one game for the old Lincoln Comets, a semi-pro team, in 1966.

"All I remember was the game was at Seacrest Field and I saw him sitting on the bench, wearing a special knee brace hooked to his shoe," Mike recalled.

Though his father never pushed him, McCashland drove himself to follow in his footsteps. Mike did not get a chance to play in the Nebraska Shrine Bowl and he played his first three seasons at NU without a scholarship.

He overcame a lot of odds with the style and zeal of a kamikaze pilot. At the same time, he's had more fun than a kid with an all-day pass at an amusement park.

"I just wanted to prove that I had the will to play," said McCashland, who became the first Husker starter from East High School since Stan Hegener in 1974.

McCashland played on a state championship team and was All-City, All-State and all-disappointed when no major college scholarships came his way.

He worked himself into a two-year starter, improving his 40 speed from :04.75 to :04.52 despite adding almost 20 pounds.

McCashland made an impressive conversion, but no one made a more dramatic turnaround than Morrow, the first Pius X graduate to play for the Huskers since the late 1960s.

Morrow, one of seven walkons who have started for the Huskers all season, is never going to be mistaken for Pitt's Bill Fralic.

But at least he's not the meatball he was 4 1/2 years ago when he walked from Pius X.

Boyd Epley, NU's nationally-recognized strength coach, took a snapshot of Morrow and put it in his briefcase.

It was a top-secret project. If Henry Higgins could take a street girl and turn her into "My Fair Lady," maybe Epley could take 245 pounds of whipped cream and stir it into a football player.

Tom Morrow, who started 11 regular-season games as a fifth-year senior, did not start until his senior year in high school. He was not All-State. He wasn't even All-City.

"I wasn't all-anything," he said. "Nobody made any mistakes with me. I really don't think I was very good in high school. I was kind of a muffin."

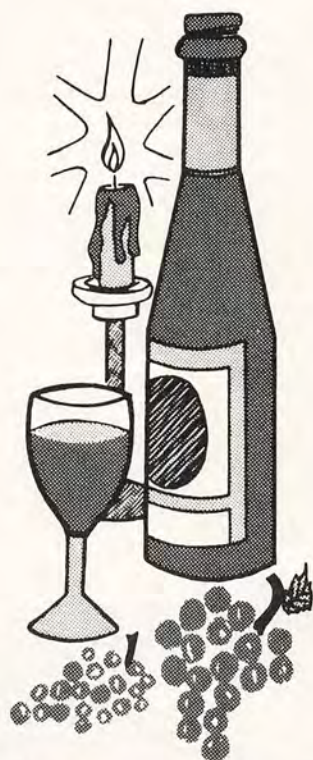
Epley describes Morrow as "the most improved Husker ever. He's the only player who's ever improved his 40 time by six-tenths of a second. And he's the second fastest lineman we've ever had (behind Dean Steinkuhler)."

Continued on page 61



McCashland (3) pulls down an OSU runner in the 1983 game.

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Carr

Continued from page 22

just run right over somebody."

Not having that raw ability helps Carr keep working. This season, he is concentrating on improving his ball handling and defense as much as he is his passing.

"I'm really working on my defense," he said. "I'm staying down 100 percent better. Last year, I got yelled at every practice for standing up. I know I can't guard a man on the open court. I anticipate way too much. The coaches have really been working with me on that."

If there's one thing Carr isn't proud of, it's his turnover total last year.

"I got really lazy taking care of the ball," he said. "I didn't have to worry about that much in high school. It never occurred to me I had a problem until I got here."

"I'd relax and get the ball up," he explained. "The type of teams we play, it was an easy steal for them. It was a hard lesson to learn. But at least I've learned it. The ball needs to be between my kneecap and ankle."

Carr is also making some offensive adjustments. "I'm not the kind who can go right up over the top of somebody," he said. "But this year, instead of toying with a guy and trying to make a move, I'm just going around him — no shake and bake."

Still, Carr doesn't see much need to assume a great scoring responsibility.

"I'm not worried about it," he said. "It'll depend on the type of team we play and how we play 'em. Harvey Marshall can really shoot it. In practice, he never seems to miss. We're such a great shooting team."

And it's Carr's job to make sure all the right buttons are pushed.

"All those years in high school when I did score, I still ran the point and got us in our offense," he said. "I got the ball into the pattern."

Above everything else, Carr is a team player. Last year, he was the most visible player leaping up off the Nebraska bench to exhort a teammate.

"I gave the players on the court as much enthusiasm as I could," he said. "I've always thought the bench was an important part of any basketball team."

And even though it was his first time on it, Carr made sure he practiced what he had preached.

Teamwork is essential. "David Ponce and Eric Williams helped me every chance they got," Carr said. "They were better than I was and they've helped me get better."

One year later, Carr can say he learned by sitting. In a way, "it was a blessing I

didn't get to play much," he said. "I saw what Coach Iba wanted out of his guards. I heard what he had to say while they were playing."

Now, it is Carr's turn to do what Iba said.

Carr hopes he can impress enough people so they will recognize him as a basketball player, not just a skinny little college student.

"I have to laugh," he said. "Last year, I roomed with Keith Neubert. He's so big (6-7), you can tell he plays basketball."

"We were sitting out on the courtyard at Harper Hall and we were talking to some other guys and they brought up the fact that Keith played basketball."

A sheepish Carr decided to mention that he, too, played basketball for the Huskers.

"And the guy started laughing at me," Carr recalled. "He thought I was kidding. It happens quite a bit. When people meet me, they can't believe I play. I just don't have the physical looks."

Those looks affect Carr's approach. "I'm really shy," he said. "I have a hard time going out and meeting people. But once I have a friend, I stick with him. I can be trusted. I don't like to hurt anybody or be hurt."

In the last year, Carr has developed a new sense of confidence.

"I got baptized (in a Methodist Church) this past summer. It really fulfilled what I've wanted," he said.

"I still have a lot of drawbacks, but I'm happy," Carr said. "It helps me that people don't expect much out of me. I know what I can do and I expect to do it."

NU ROSTER

Demetrious Buchanan — 6-2, Jr., Guard, South Bend, Ind.

Brian Carr — 6-1, So., Guard, Muncie, Ind.

Dave Hoppen — 6-11, Jr., Center, Omaha, Neb.

Bill Jackman — 6-8 1/2, So., Forward, Grant, Neb.

Chris Logan — 6-5, Jr., Forward, Natchez, Miss.

Harvey Marshall — 6-3, Jr., Guard, Jackson, Tenn.

Mike Martz — 6-6, So., Forward, Beatrice, Neb.

John Matzke — 6-7, Jr., Forward, Lincoln, Neb.

Curtis Moore — 6-4, Sr., Forward, Mount Vernon, N.Y.

Keith Neubert — 6-7, So., Forward, Fort Atkinson, Wis.

Joel Sealer — 6-2, Fr., Guard, Omaha, Neb.

Ronnie Smith — 6-9, Sr., F-C, Galveston, Tex.

Anthony White — 6-2, Sr., Guard, Wichita, Kan. ♦

Osborne

Continued from page 29

ous faith, which will be explored in the next issue of *Huskers Illustrated*, he'd have a hard time coping with such things.

But basically, Osborne survives, endures and succeeds because he knows football "isn't life and death" and "it isn't war. It's a game."

But it is a game that demands and gets every ounce he can deliver. Even when he doesn't have X's and O's on his brain, Tom Osborne is a roll-up-your-sleeves type of guy.

When you're a sportswriter who covers the Huskers on a day-to-day basis, you wonder how a man can cover so much ground, technically and organizationally. You wonder what makes him work 14 hours a day eight months a year.

Those who work with him and for him understand the answer to that question.

"You trust Tom in a crisis," said Dr. Ursula Walsh, Nebraska's athletic department counselor for 13 years.

"I even feel that watching the games," she said. "He's stronger than the others (coaches); he's smarter than the others; and he works harder than the others. With Tom there, you always know everything's going to be okay."

"If he has enough time, he'll come through. I have such confidence in him...it's a terrible burden to put on a man."

Nevertheless, it's true and Walsh said Osborne never loses his drive.

After Nebraska lost the controversial 27-24 game at Penn State in 1982, Walsh sat next to Osborne during the bus ride to the airport.

Osborne turned on the overhead light and "started drawing new pass patterns," recalled Walsh.

"I said to Tom: 'This is kind of unhealthy, isn't it?'"

"He told me, 'I've got to do something,'" Walsh said. "Tom Osborne doesn't waste time; he uses his time very well."

According to Walsh, her success as an academic counselor is directly related to the type of student-athletes Nebraska recruits. She has an "unproven thesis" that recruits are most influenced by a school's head coach, that in many ways "they want to be like the coach."

Walsh also believes that "people constantly strive for consistency within themselves" and Osborne comes closer than most to achieving a personal consistency.

"Tom never talks off the top of his head," she said. "He reflects on everything. And you know he's always going to

be the same. He makes his decisions on principles and those principles don't change. He's accountable. He'll stand up and take the consequences of his actions."

Each Sunday during the football season, Osborne arrives at his South Stadium offices at 7 a.m. and immediately begins grading films of the previous day's game.

By 10:30 a.m., the grading is complete and Osborne takes time to attend services with his family at St. Mark's United Methodist Church.

After a hurried dinner, he goes to the studios of a local television station, where he tapes "The Tom Osborne Show." By no later than 3 p.m., he's back at the stadium for a brief press conference with the print media, then he watches film from the most recent game of the Huskers' next opponent.

That film session lasts three or four hours. After a lunch served at the office, Osborne meets with his assistants to begin formulating the week's game plan. The day's work isn't over until midnight, when Osborne locks his office door.

He keeps a similar schedule on Monday. Osborne is rarely out-coached; he is never out-worked.

"It's one of those cases where no matter how early you arrive or how late you leave, it won't be as early and it won't be

as late as Tom," said Steve Pederson, Nebraska's recruiting coordinator.

"And when Tom is here, he's doing something every minute, he's working towards accomplishing something. It's amazing how much he gets done in a day."

Pederson is in his third season as recruiting coordinator, a key position, particularly considering the school is located in a low-population area. NU's recruiting effort must extend from coast to coast and border to border.

During the season, Pederson will contact as many as 3,000 players annually and actually follow the progress of between 600 and 700. From those, Nebraska will select, maybe, two dozen for scholarships and encourage another 40 or so to walk on.

The man who handles such an enormous task is 26, little more than a half-dozen years older than the athletes he recruits.

His background includes an undergraduate degree in business and journalism, four years as an assistant in the Nebraska sports information office, and a year-and-a-half as public relations director at Ak-Sar-Ben, one of the world's most successful horse racing plants in Omaha.

He has never — repeat never — coached football. But Osborne contacted him about becoming the Cornhusker recruit-

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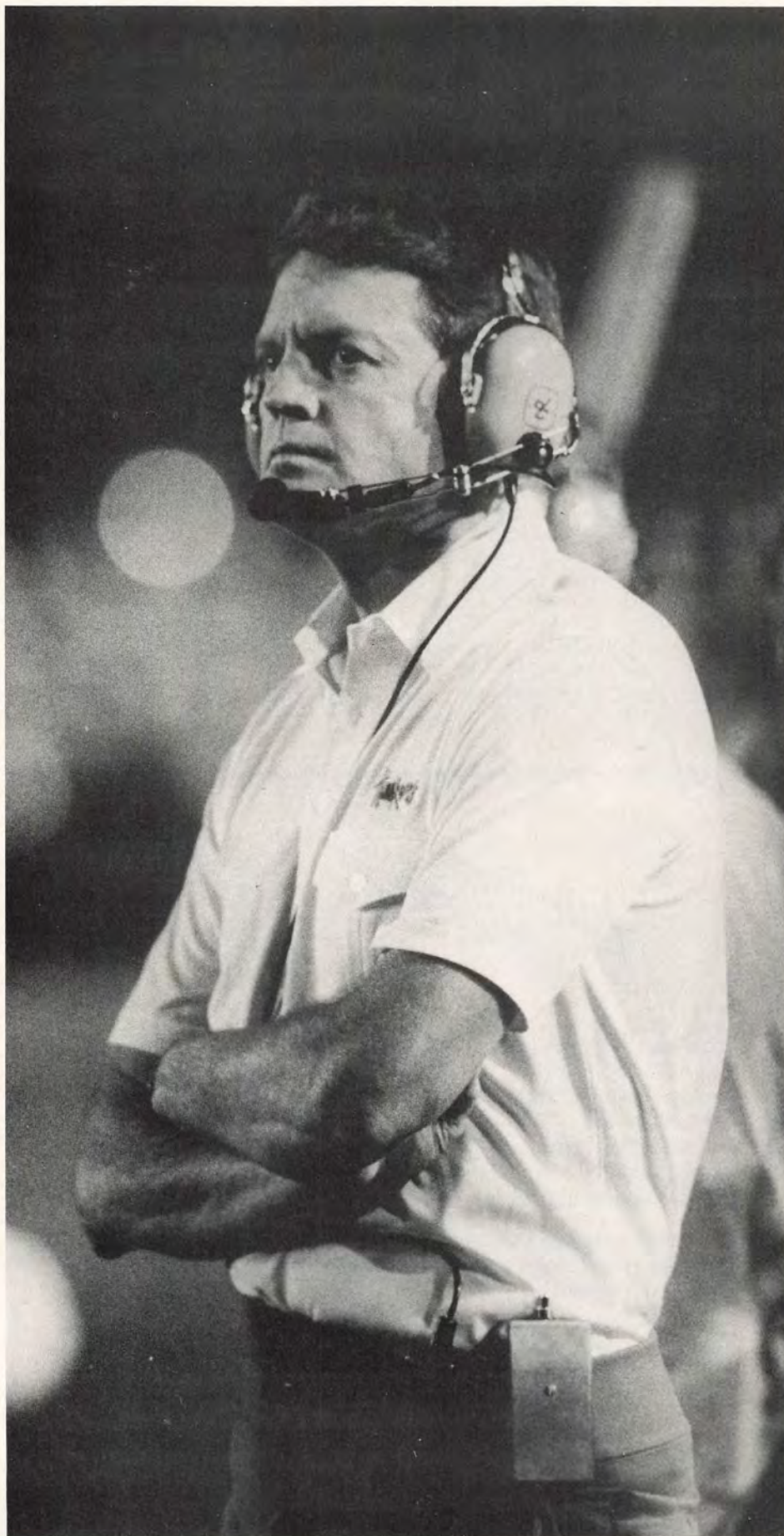


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what story the
scoreboard tells.

ing coordinator when Jerry Pettibone left for Texas A&M.

It is the brilliance of a brilliant coach.

"If anybody else had called, I mean anybody else, to say, 'I want you to become my recruiting coordinator,' I wouldn't have considered it," Pederson said. "It wasn't logical. It didn't make any sense.

"But with Tom Osborne, for some reason, it did."

What Osborne wanted was someone with organizational skills and innovative ideas for selling his program; in short, an administrative assistant.

Osborne's understanding of people extends beyond the football field and like Devaney, he knows how to delegate responsibility.

"Whenever you need his involvement, he's there in a second," Pederson said. "But he doesn't have to okay everything. There's no way you could administrate a program like this and worry about every little thing that's going on.

"You have to trust the people around you to do a good job, and he does. Tom Osborne has the attitude: 'I've hired you to do a job and if you're not going to do it, I'll go out and get somebody else.'"

Boyd Epley has been around Nebraska's football program for 15 years.

Osborne maintains a busy, but regular, daily schedule. "He's the busiest person I know," said Epley, NU's nationally prominent strength and conditioning coach.

Epley used to meet with Osborne each day by riding down on the elevator from Osborne's second floor office to the locker room he shares with Devaney.

"By the time we got off the elevator, our meeting was over," Epley said. "I know better times to talk with him now, but you have to respect his time and allow him enough time to use his genius."

Nebraska has the largest strength complex in the country, supervised by the most respected strength coach in the country—Epley.

The facility is a tribute to Epley's skill and Osborne's vision.

"He's been extremely supportive, particularly for a man who just started lifting weights himself last year," Epley said. "His personal program is running."

Twelve years before Osborne ever lifted a weight himself, he required his players to adhere strictly to Epley's program...no exceptions.

"For a man to have that kind of vision is amazing," Epley said. "Someone who does lift can see the results and you can get them hooked."

Osborne sees the results through his players.

Epley, a former pole vaulter who turned to strength training after suffering a severe back injury, began helping Nebraska's football players condition themselves while Devaney was still head coach.

But it was Osborne who went to Devaney and suggested that Epley, who still considered himself a pole vaulter at the time, be hired as college football's first strength and conditioning coach.

Again, Osborne was a step ahead of everyone else.

No wonder Jack Bicknell of Boston College was one coach who voted for Osborne as the best football coach in America.

"Tom Osborne has been competitive for many years," he said. "He has a winning program that continues to improve. He runs a clean program. He has excellent offensive and defensive balance. He uses the walkon program to full advantage."

Epley has been a vital part in that walkon program. Osborne, in effect, spots the raw talent and asks Epley to develop that talent to its full physical potential.

Unlike basketball, Osborne always has insisted you can "make" a great football player with the right combination of skill, desire, determination and perseverance.

Because he was the first strength coach in the country, much of what Epley has done began as experimentation.

"When you look at the things we've tried, you realize Coach Osborne has to have a pretty open mind," Epley said. "There aren't many places you can go for direction."

According to Epley, "Coach Osborne has allowed me and my staff to experiment with different approaches, never criticizing, always supporting."


Epley learned how supportive Osborne can be in 1975 when he nearly left Nebraska for a similar job with the Detroit Lions in the National Football League.

Epley went to Detroit to interview for the job, with the stipulation that he would talk to Osborne before making a decision.


The Lions offered to more than double his salary plus give him a car, a larger weight room and an unlimited budget and Epley said "Yes."

"I regretted it afterward because I hadn't discussed it with Coach Osborne like I told him I would," Epley recalled. "He had known what would happen and he was upset."

Epley returned to Lincoln on Monday and "long about Thursday night, Coach Osborne called me to his house," he recalled. "I remember walking up the sidewalk



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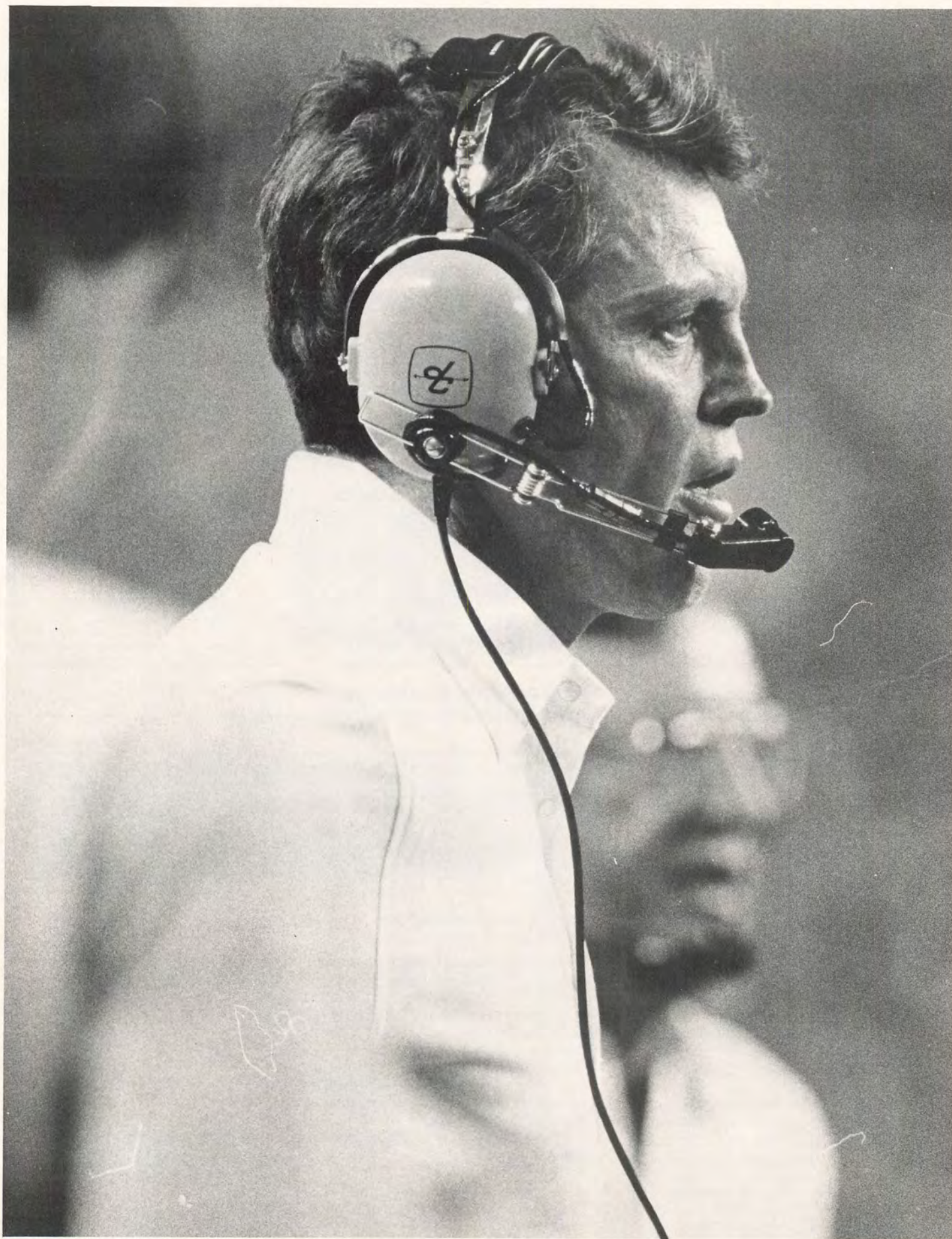
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to his house, thinking 'I'm taking that job (in Detroit) no matter what.'"

By the time Epley left, he was a Cornhusker again.

"Coach Osborne had worked on an improved situation for me during the time since I had come back," he said. "I couldn't believe a man of his responsibilities would spend that much time trying to help me. That's what convinced me to stay."

Osborne never meddles. "I might not even talk to him for a month at a time," he said. "He has a confidence built on trust. If I have a problem he knows, he gives you the support you need, but from a distance."

Epley believes those who work for Osborne can't help but assume his personal characteristics, the capacity for hard work, the careful attention to detail, and loyalty to those who are loyal to him.

"Personally, he sets such an example in his own life, it helps me to be a better person," Epley said. "He's tactful and gracious, a gentleman for sure. But he's also a competitor. Tom Osborne does not lose."

He is, by most accounts, the greatest coach in America. ♦

The Osborne Log

1973 — 9 wins, 2 losses, 1 tie. Cotton Bowl (Nebraska 19, Texas 3); John Dutton and Daryl White All-Americans.

1974 — 9 wins, 3 losses. Sugar Bowl (Nebraska 13, Florida 10); Dave Humm, Rik Bonness, Marvin Crenshaw All-Americans.

1975 — 10 wins, 2 losses. Co-champions in Big Eight; Fiesta Bowl (Arizona State 17, Nebraska 14); Rik Bonness, Wonder Monds, Bob Martin All-Americans.

1976 — 9 wins, 3 losses, 1 tie. Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl (Nebraska 27, Texas Tech 24); Vince Ferragamo, Dave Butterfield and Mike Fultz All-Americans.

1977 — 9 wins, 3 losses. Liberty Bowl (Nebraska 21, North Carolina 17); Tom Davis All-American.

1978 — 9 wins, 3 losses. Big Eight co-champions; Orange Bowl (Oklahoma 31, Nebraska 24); Kelvin Clark and George Andrews, All-Americans.

1979 — 10 wins, 2 losses. Cotton Bowl (Houston 17, Nebraska 14); Junior Miller All-American.

1980 — 10 wins, 2 losses. Sun Bowl (Nebraska 31, Mississippi State 17); Derrie Nelson, Randy Schleusner and Jarvis Redwine All-Americans.

1981 — 9 wins, 3 losses. Big Eight champions; Orange Bowl (Clemson 22, Nebraska 15); Dave Rimington (Outland Award) and Jimmy Williams All-Americans.

1982 — 12 wins, 1 loss. Big Eight champions; Orange Bowl champions (Nebraska 21, LSU 20); Dave Rimington (Outland Award, Lombardi Trophy) and Mike Rozier All-Americans.

1983 — 12 wins, 1 loss. Big Eight champions; Orange Bowl (Miami-Fla. 31, Nebraska 30); Mike Rozier (Heisman Trophy), Dean Steinkuhler (Outland Award and Lombardi Trophy) and Irving Fryar All-Americans.





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Husker JV.

Continued from page 45

dorf quarterback Bill Rogan tossed the ball, in desperation, to tight end Tom Wagner to hand Nebraska its first junior varsity loss to a junior college since 1969, when McCook JC escaped Memorial Stadium with a 21-13 victory.

"That quarterback made a lot of things happen," NU freshman Coach Dan Young said of Rogan, who completed 21 of 41 passes for 279 yards and three touchdowns against the Huskers.

"He was very elusive. We thought we had him, then he ended up scrambling and throwing up a prayer. He made good things happen. It was just like we weren't meant to win this one."

It wasn't because the jayvees didn't try. They did. But three lost fumbles and two pass interceptions, combined with the play of Rogan, were just too much to overcome.

Nebraska scored first on I-back Jeff Wheeler's nine-yard run, but the Cornhuskers trailed 10-7 at the half.

Linebacker Jim Gruenewald put the Nebraska jayvees ahead with a 29-yard interception return for a touchdown in the third

quarter, and Jon Kelley counted Waldorf's second touchdown with a one-yard touchdown plunge in the fourth quarter.

But the Huskers couldn't hold on.

Wheeler, a walkon from Urbandale, Iowa, led Nebraska's ball carriers with 91 yards on 12 carries.

Waldorf's ground game was limited to 33 yards on 33 attempts against the rugged junior varsity rushing defense.

Waldorf Coach Dave Bolstorff complimented Nebraska's junior varsity program after the victory. "You can't believe what a game like this means to our program," he said.

"I told the kids, in my opinion, Nebraska has the finest, classiest, 'gentlemanly' program in the country."

The Cornhuskers proved that on Waldorf's final series. Waldorf had first-and-goal at the NU one-yard line. After two plays, the ball still rested inches away, and on third down, Husker middle guard dropped the ball carrier at the one-yard line to set the stage for the dramatic, and disappointing, finish.

Waldorf JC 23, Nebraska JV 21

Waldorf JC	3	7	0	13	—	23
Nebraska JV	7	0	7	7	—	21

N — Wheeler 9 run (Gruenewald kick)
 W — Rogan 27 field goal
 W — Wagner 9 pass from Rogan (Steffen kick)
 N — Gruenewald 29 interception return (Cheloha kick)
 W — Long 30 pass from Rogan (pass failed)
 N — Kelley 1 run (Gruenewald kick)
 W — Wagner 1 pass from Rogan (Rogan kick)

	WJC	NJV
First downs	17	17
Rushes-yards	37-33	59-196
Passing yards	279	44
Passes	21-41-2	5-17-2
Return yards	18	47
Punts-avg.	8-29.5	8-40.5
Fumbles-lost	2-0	4-3
Penalties-yards	10-65	7-70

NEBRASKA JUNIOR VARSITY 41 WM JEWELL COLLEGE JV 0

The season ended as it began, with an offensive explosion and a solid defensive effort.

The Nebraska junior varsity defeated the William Jewell College jayvees 41-0 at Memorial Stadium to finish 4-1.

"We had something to prove," Husker quarterback Wendell Wooten said, refer-

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ring to a 23-21 loss to Waldorf Junior College two weeks earlier.

"We hadn't been scoring a lot of points, so we thought we needed to come out and light up the scoreboard."

Wooten and I-back Jeff Wheeler did their part to keep the scoreboard operator busy. Wheeler scored touchdowns on runs of three and 23 yards, and Wooten ran 74 and 16 yards for two other TDs to end the season on a positive note.

Wooten finished the game with a game-high 131 rushing yards on 16 carries. Wheeler gained 122 yards on 18 tries.

Second-team quarterback Jim Toner, a walkon from Grand Island, passed for Nebraska's other touchdowns, teaming with Pat Seawall on a 19-yarder and Bob Kenney on a 28-yarder.

Toner's touchdown passes were the Cornhusker jayvees' only aerial strikes of the season.

"Our effort was pretty good throughout," said Cornhusker freshman Coach Dan Young. "The players got themselves ready to play from the opening kickoff."

Nebraska's jayvees scored the first time they had the ball, driving 54 yards in 11 plays, the biggest being a 19-yard run by Wheeler on a second-and-11 from the William Jewell 22-yard line.

With freshman Keith Jones having been promoted to the varsity, full-time, and redshirt freshman Jon Kelley plagued by injuries, Wheeler took over and became the jayvees' leading ball carrier, finishing the season with 367 yards.

Fullback Don Lilly set up the Huskers' second touchdown with a 23-yard run. From that point on, the game's outcome was never in doubt.

The jayvee defense recorded its first shutout by limiting the Cardinals to 66 rushing yards and 106 yards through the air. The Huskers recovered four fumbles and intercepted one pass.

NU linebacker Jim Gruenewald set the tone early when he sacked William Jewell quarterback Dan Ulland for a six-yard loss on a third-and-six during the Cardinals' first offensive series.

Husker tackle Paul Fix tackled running back Tony Logan for a four-yard loss to stifle William Jewell's second series. The Cardinals could never get going.

Young used most of his players in the game, starting some who hadn't started before. "The last three or four games we didn't have a chance to play many second- and third-stringers, and I wanted to get some of those kids some playing time," he said.

As many as 75 Huskers saw action.

Nebraska JV 41, William Jewell JV 0



Wendell Wooten (11) looks for room to run.

Wm. Jewell	0	0	0	0	—	0
Nebraska JV	14	13	14	0	—	41

N—Wheeler 3 run (Gruenewald kick)
 N—Wheeler 23 run (Gruenewald kick)
 N—Wooten 74 run (kick failed)
 N—Seawall 19 pass from Toner (Cheloha kick)
 N—Wooten 16 run (Cheloha kick)
 N—Kenney 28 pass from Toner (Cheloha kick)

	WJ	NJV
First downs	9	24
Rushes-yards	36-66	63-353
Passing yards	106	142
Passes	12-29-1	10-16-0
Return yards	15	22
Punts-avg.	9-38.2	4-38.0
Fumbles-lost	6-4	11-6
Penalties-yards	8-66	5-37

FINAL TEAM STATISTICS

	Frosh	Opp
First downs	90	60
First downs rushing	68	21
First downs passing	19	37
First downs penalty	3	2
Total offensive yards	1697	1264
Average yards per game	339.4	252.8
Total offensive plays	363	346
Average gain per play	4.7	3.7
Net yards rushing	1335	285
Avg. gain per game	267	57
Rushing attempts	287	180
Avg. per rush	4.7	1.6
Yards gained rushing	1572	491
Yards lost rushing	237	206
Net yards passing	362	979
Passing attempts	76	166
Pass completions	29	80

Completion percentage	.382	.482
Had intercepted	6	12
Interception return yards	152	16
Punting average	39.3	33.6
Number of punts	27	38
Punting yards	1060	1278
Punts had blocked	1	0
Punt returns	11	7
Punt return yards	79	56
Punt return average	7.2	8.0
Kickoff returns	13	17
Kickoff return yards	351	249
Kickoff return average	27.0	14.6
Penalties-yards	31-237	39-283
Fumbles-lost	27-16	16-5
Touchdowns	22	8
Touchdowns rushing	18	1
Touchdowns passing	2	7
Touchdowns return	2	0

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

RUSHING — Wheeler 55-367, Jones 31-240, Lilly 34-237, Wooten 58-167, Kelley 34-132, McGill 15-73, Brinson 4-63.

RECEIVING — Hicks 7-91, Griffin 5-66, Krocker 4-47, Wheeler 3-37, Brinson 2-28.

PASSING — Wooten 16-47-5, 198 yds.; Toner 11-24-1, 146 yds., 2 TD.

TACKLES — Smith 17-19-36, Pete 23-13-36, Gruenewald 16-12-28, Kuchta 12-14-26, Hinton 14-12-26, Stanard 18-6-24, Barber 7-10-17, Fix 9-7-16, Millikan 10-5-15, Miller 10-3-13, Custard 5-6-11, Mackey 6-4-10.

INTERCEPTIONS — Barber 2, Custard 2, Hale 2. ♦

Potpourri

Continued from page 19

For the first time in Big Eight history, one team dominated the first-team running back spots on the All-Conference squad. Doug DuBose (top right) took one of the spots, while senior Jeff Smith (below) was named at the other. They were among nine Huskers named to the first team. No other school had more than six.



Huskers Dominate All-Big 8

Led by senior center Mark Traynowicz, who was named on all but one ballot, Nebraska staked claim to nine first-team spots on the 1984 All-Big Eight team selected by writers and broadcasters of the *Associated Press*.

Traynowicz was joined on the offensive line by teammates Mark Behning and Harry Grimmer. The Cornhuskers also grabbed both running back spots on the team as I-backs Jeff Smith and Doug DuBose hogged the honors. DuBose,

who led the Big Eight in rushing, is one of only three sophomores named to the first team, the others being Colorado tight end Jon Embree and Missouri tackle John Clay.

In addition to those five selections on offense, Nebraska had three picks on defense and punter Scott Livingston. Both of the defensive ends named to the AP team are Huskers, as seniors Scott Strasburger and Bill Weber were chosen. Safety Bret Clark, also a senior, was the other NU first-teamer.

The nine first-team selections in 1984 topped by one the total Nebraska had last year. In notching their fourth straight Big Eight title (NU shared this one with Oklahoma after three straight outright championships), the Huskers also placed three players on the second team and two more in the honorable mention list.

Named to the second team were defenders Rob Stuckey at tackle and linebackers Marc Munford and Mark Daum. Stuckey and Daum are seniors, while Munford is only a sophomore. Shane Swanson and Ken Graeber were given honorable mention on the team.

Traynowicz and Clark are both repeaters. Linebacker Mike Knox was also in position to repeat this year, but was sidelined with an injury. He'll be back next fall to give Nebraska two All-Big Eight linebackers.

The selection of Smith and DuBose gave Nebraska a first-team all-league running back for the eighth straight year. Not since 1976 have the Huskers failed to have a running back named to the team. Included on the list since then have been I.M. Hipp in 1977, Rick Berns in 1978, Jarvis Redwine in 1979 and 1980 and Mike Rozier in 1981, 1982 and 1983.

This was the first time since 1972 that one team has had two running backs named to the team, and it was the first time ever in the Big Eight that the only running backs named were from the same school. Oklahoma's Greg Pruitt and Leon Crosswhite were selected in 1972 along with Charlie Davis of Colorado and Mike Strachan of Iowa State.

Rounding out the 1984 All-Big Eight first team were Oklahoma's Danny Bradley at quarterback; Tracey Henderson of Iowa State and George Shorthouse of Missouri at wide receiver spots; Clay of Missouri and Paul Blair of Oklahoma State at the other offensive line positions; and OSU's Larry Roach the place kicker.

On defense, Oklahoma's Tony Casillas was named at nose guard; Leslie O'Neal and Rodney Harding of Oklahoma State



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at tackles; Matt Monger of OSU, Brian Bosworth of OU and Willie Pless of Kansas at the linebackers; and Barton Hundley of Kansas State and Rod Brown of OSU in the secondary along with Clark.

Henderson, Blair, Casillas, O'Neal, Pless and Hundley are all juniors, with Bosworth the only freshman named to the first team. Bradley was selected the offensive player of the year and O'Neal the defensive player of the year in the Big Eight.

Husker defense leads nation

It wasn't even close!

By a margin of more than 20 yards per game the Nebraska defense led the nation in 1984, finishing ahead of co-Big Eight champion Oklahoma and Virginia Tech. The Huskers permitted only 203.3 yards per game in winning the NCAA team title. That broke down to 78.8 yards per game rushing (fourth nationally) and 124.5 passing (fifth in the nation).

Nebraska also led the nation in defense against scoring going into the final

weekend. The Huskers yielded only 105 points in 11 games, or a 9.5 average. Toledo had given up 99 points in 10 games going into a Nov. 30 date with Temple. The Big Eight showed just how defensive it was in 1984 as Oklahoma State was fifth in scoring defense (12.2) and Oklahoma sixth (12.4).

In total defense the Sooners were a distant second, giving up 225.2 yards per game. But Oklahoma did lead the nation in rushing defense with an average yield of 68.8 yards per game. And OSU was 14th in that category with a 116.1 figure. In passing defense, Texas Tech led the country with a mark of 114.8, followed by Wichita State, Syracuse, Memphis State and the Huskers. Oklahoma State was 23rd and OU 24th.

Offensively, Nebraska finished third in the country in rushing behind Army and Air Force. The Huskers averaged 311.1 on the ground — the only team other than the two academies to average more than 300 per game. And in total offense the Huskers were 12th in the land with a production of 427.5. Their

scoring average of 32.6 ranked them sixth in the nation behind Florida State, BYU, Boston College, Ohio State and TCU (Florida State and BC had one game left at press time).

In the Big Eight Conference Nebraska was tops in total defense and total offense, as well as scoring and defense against scoring. Missouri, which led much of the way in total offense in the league race, finished a yard behind the Huskers (427.5 to 426.4). The Tigers, who fired former NU assistant coach Warren Powers at the conclusion of the 3-7-1 campaign, were also second in scoring offense with 28.2 and in rushing with 239.9 per game. Colorado led the league in passing with an average of 233.7 yards per contest.

The Cornhuskers, behind All-Big Eight punter Scott Livingston, were tops in the Big Eight in net punting with 38.4 yards per kick (after returns). That was good for 29th in the nation. Oklahoma was next in the league with 36.7. ♦

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Burke

Continued from page 35

tice, when I should have been pushing myself even harder."

He was hit by the realization that his final season at Nebraska would be "a great opportunity," Burke wanted to get out of it everything he could. He predicted a great season for himself.

Burke's predication was accurate.

During the week prior to Nebraska's 41-7 victory over Kansas, Cornhusker head Coach Tom Osborne included Burke, prominently, among those players deserving All-Big Eight recognition.

"He was a pretty average player last year," said Osborne. "It's not that he was bad; he played well enough. But it's been quite a transformation."

Burke went from being a running back, dreaming of touchdowns, to one of the best cornerbacks in the Big Eight.

That's a dramatic transformation, indeed. ♦

Lincoln Boys

Continued from page 49

Tom Morrow has gone from the tortoise to the hare, from the bottom to the top. He is the choicest product of Nebraska's art...a smart fool who rushed in, stayed and played.

Sundberg, Weber and McCashland don't ever remember Morrow from high school. He was that obscure.

But he lived in a family where his father would jump out of his living room chair whenever Nebraska scored a touchdown against Oklahoma.

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Lincoln native Craig Sundberg fights through a Missouri tackler to score a key touchdown.



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Ask Tom Osborne

Q: Do you and your coaches use computers in play selection and analysis?

A: "We don't use a computer in play selection. We do, however, use a computer in assimilating all the defensive data. We chart all the films, all the plays, the formations that people run, and then we put it on a computer and get a printout sheet.

"This enables you to kind of keep track of what formations people have used most, where they tend to run, what kind of tendencies they have. But it isn't like we have somebody sitting up in the pressbox, poking some buttons that tell us what play to run.

"I think computers are good, but I think they can be misleading sometimes in that you can get so much information that you're almost confused by the amount of data. And, of course, the other thing that's a little bit difficult to handle with computers is the fact that people change.

"You may come out the first series or two, like in our game against Colorado, where they used a defense that we'd never seen before, so all the computers in the world wouldn't have helped you at that point because then you were kind

of on your own. The same thing is true when Kansas State went to the wishbone this season. Somebody was playing them, and all of a sudden, there's a wishbone offense. That's a little bit hard to deal with.

"Computers help you with past information, but they don't do much in terms of adjusting to change."

Q: When you're talking on the head phones on the sideline, how far ahead are you planning?

A: "When we're talking on the phones, we're talking about a variety of things. Usually, I'm on the phones during an offensive series, talking to Milt Tenopir and Gene Huey about what we're seeing. I can usually have a pretty good idea from the sideline what defense they're in, but I can't tell much about spacing — whether a tackle is head-up, outside-shoulder or whatever. So we're trying to keep track of that.

"Sometimes, we're talking a little bit about what we're going to do if it's third down and long, maybe one or two plays ahead. We're not really talking eight or nine plays ahead, normally. And then, of course, we talk about any patterns that may have emerged, if they tend to be blitzing on third down or whatever.

"Then when we go on defense, I usually switch over and most of the time I'm on the defensive phones. In that case, I generally listen in and say a word here and there. Once in awhile I'll suggest something, and I try to keep track of penalties and whether we're going to take or decline them.

"I'm really working both sides of the field a little bit but most of the time on offense."

Q: Why can't your recruiting coordinator attend high school football games?

A: "There are some NCAA rules that say you have nine full-time coaches and those are the only people who are allowed to leave your campus to go out and evaluate players. That means leaving your campus even to visit Seacrest Field here in Lincoln. That's kind of crazy because our recruiting coordinator, Steve Pederson, lives four or five blocks from Seacrest, and I guess, theoretically, he's not supposed to go over there and watch a game. He certainly can't go up to Omaha or go out to Grand Island or go to a game in Kansas.

"You'd be amazed at the number of rules there are and how restrictive they

are. For instance, we have a Lincoln parents' program and we were told that no longer can players have a meal with their Lincoln family. That's an interpretation the NCAA has rendered. We have been told that nobody but full-time coaches can go out and scout a football game. It can't be done by a graduate assistant. It's unbelievable the number of restrictions we have."

Q: How are officials assigned to games?

A: "The Big Eight has its own officials. There's a pool of Big Eight officials, and Bruce Finlayson is the director of Big Eight officiating. He makes those assignments. He assigns the first four Big Eight games and then if the coaches are upset with any particular official or group of officials, you can let him know, and then you're not apt to see those same officials in your last three games. He assigns a second set of officials for the last three ballgames.

"Usually, I just leave it up to Bruce. I have nothing to do with it, really.

"Of course, for the non-conference games, you're usually dealing with a split crew. We would normally, if we were going out to play UCLA for instance, have three officials from the Pac 10 and three from the Big Eight. If you're going to play down in the Southwest Conference, you'd get three from the Big Eight and three from the Southwest Conference."

Q: Over the years, your teams have been good at avoiding the upsets to which most other teams fall victim. How do you prepare your team to avoid such upsets?

A: "The approach we have is pretty much the same each week. You'll find some teams vary their routine. They'll say, 'We're playing Texas this week, this is a big game, therefore, we're either going to practice longer or we will be in sweat clothes all week.' We'll have a pep rally every night or we'll wear black jerseys instead of blue jerseys, all these kinds of things.

"The players get the message that somehow this is a different week. We really don't vary our routine at all. We try to practice the same length, the same routine, all the time. We really try to emphasize with the players that our opponent is ourself. We're trying to play the best we can play, and therefore, we're striving against perfection. It isn't so much our opponent. Hopefully, that'll cause a level approach to every ballgame." ♦



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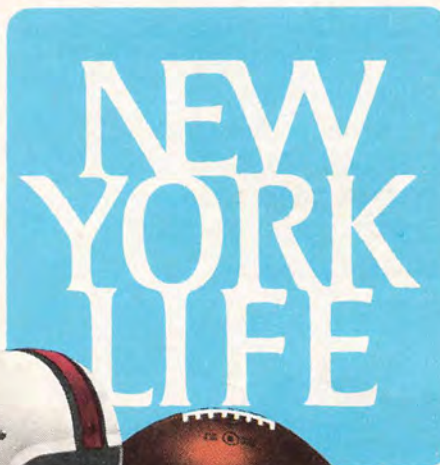
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